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WDM magazine

Issue 52 | Fall 2020

Your guide to news and activities for the City of West Des Moines



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Raccoon River
Park Boathouse

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Emerald Ash
Borer Update

p1

WDM Parks
& Recreation



THE JAMIE HURD AMPHITHEATER COMING FALL 2020

This fall the West Des Moines City Campus becomes even more vibrant with the addition of the Jamie Hurd Amphitheater. Overlooking the pond, the \$2.4 million amphitheater will serve as a cultural center for the community, playing host to festivals, concerts, movies and more.



The Jamie Hurd Amphitheater is also available for private rentals such as weddings or reunions.

Funding for Jamie Hurd Amphitheater is made possible by generous donations from the Richard Hurd Family and Microsoft Corporation.

WE'RE NOT JUST DREAMING.
WE'RE DOING.

Learn more at www.wdm.iowa.gov/JHA



Join us on September 19 at Illumifest, where we celebrate the grand opening of the Jamie Hurd Amphitheater with music from Faculty Lounge, a screening of Onward and a fireworks display.



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WELCOME to the WDM Magazine...
The City of West Des Moines' premier communication sent to over 34,000 homes and businesses throughout the City.

The WDM Magazine is published three times per year to highlight city news and information as well as community events and programming available through WDM Parks and Recreation, the WDM Library, and WDM Human Services.

WEST DES MOINES CITY HALL

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West Des Moines, Iowa 50265
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WATER
+
GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES
+
LAND DEVELOPMENT
+
ENVIRONMENTAL
+
CONSTRUCTION

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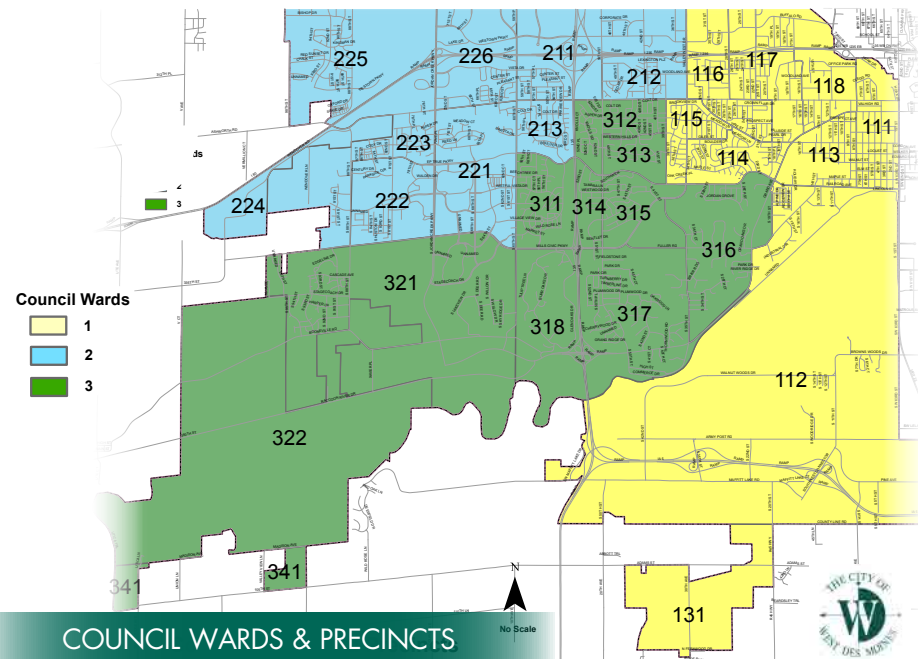
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THE MAYOR'S COLUMN



I'm so proud of West Des Moines for coming together to address a very challenging time and managing our community in a safe and methodical manner.

When Governor Kim Reynolds issued her first state public health emergency proclamation in March, we realized that we would have to change the way we provided City services on your behalf.

City Manager Tom Hadden and all city departments quickly embraced new ways of working to maintain all necessary services in a safe and effective manner.

Staff have worked tirelessly to keep city government services functioning smoothly, and I am deeply grateful for their dedication and commitment to public service.

As we move forward in the weeks and months ahead, it's important for residents to know we will continue to successfully provide necessary city services on your behalf while also planning for the future.

We are fortunate to have so many positive things happening in West Des Moines.

We recently were notified that Moody's maintained our city's top Aaa credit rating and expressed no concerns that the economic downturn would hurt our ability to bounce back as a city.

This is great news because a top credit rating helps us borrow funds at low interest rates so we can continue with projects and services that make West Des Moines such a wonderful place to live. It also allows us to continue to prove to our business community that we are an excellent place to do business.

We also are making tremendous progress on major construction projects that will add a new sparkle to the quality of life in West Des Moines. A prime example is the MidAmerican

Energy Company RecPlex located on Grand Avenue, just west of the DMACC Campus. This huge facility will be a great addition to the metro, and I know many people are anxiously looking forward to opening day.

Another exciting project is the Jamie Hurd Amphitheater by the pond at City Hall. We have big plans for this venue as a relaxing spot for local entertainment and performances.

In addition, our new Raccoon River Park Boathouse will be open by the time you read this column. It's an ideal and convenient spot to rent a non-motorized boat or canoe so that you can truly experience the great outdoors right here in our city.

Private developers also have been able to continue with their construction work. Our most recent building report shows the total valuation for April was more than \$31 million. If you compare that to April 2019, we're up over \$15 million when you remove three large "one time" projects that were recorded in 2019 (two Microsoft Data Center facilities and our new Public Services Building).

History tells us that our community is resourceful and will adapt and advance just as our early residents did when Valley Junction experienced periods of great upheaval and change and just as we did coming through the economic challenges of 2008-11.

We have much to look forward to as we move into the second half of a challenging and memorable year. I thank all our residents and businesses for their patience, corporation and support during these last few months.

Our commitment to you is that we will continue to deliver the superior services and enhanced quality of life you've come to expect from your city government.

Mayor Steven K. Gaer

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS



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FROM THE CITY MANAGER



I want to thank Mayor Steve Gaer for his leadership and statements to our community about the tragic death of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

As City Manager, I fully support the Mayor and the City Council as we move our discussions about equity and inclusion forward with our residents.

The signing of the Mayor's Pledge that was approved at the June 15 Council meeting gives us an excellent opportunity to involve residents in our ongoing examination of police policies and procedures.

West Des Moines is a unique community because all three public service entities are accredited (Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services). Not many cities in the nation have been able to achieve this distinction, and we have benefited because our elected leaders have supported this investment in our public safety operations.

Our Police Department is accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), an organization that sets the standard for professional excellence and best practices in law enforcement.

As part of our ongoing accreditation process, we've conducted research, gathered data and updated the policies and procedures that guide our public safety operations. This work will assist us as we further examine our efforts and complete a review of the items included in the Mayor's Pledge.

We welcome an open, honest and candid discussion of race and equity issues with our community. Important participants in this dialogue will be the members of our Human Rights Commission, a group of volunteers who meet regularly at City Hall.

This group has been working to finalize a strategic plan that will guide their work in our City. I want to thank them for their heartfelt public statement about their commitment to ensuring equity and racial justice for all our residents. We welcome their input and assistance with our work.

Our goal as City leaders is to listen, learn and lead. As Mayor Gaer has stated, hatred and racism have no place in West Des Moines.

In the months ahead, you'll be hearing more about our efforts. I look forward to reporting back to you about our work to ensure everyone is welcome in West Des Moines.

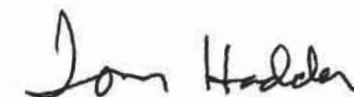
COVID-19 / City Budget

As I write this message, we've reopened our buildings to the public and have rescheduled many of the programs and events that were canceled due to concerns about the spread of COVID-19.

Employees will be wearing masks in public areas of our buildings and practicing social distancing. When visiting our buildings, please follow social distancing recommendations. If you would like to wear a mask and don't have one, just let us know and we'll provide one for you.

As expected, the revenues we collect have been reduced as a result of the pandemic. I will be working closely with our Finance Department to monitor and adjust our budget. If necessary, we will delay some projects and hiring activities once we are able to better determine the impact of lost hotel/motel tax, local option sales tax and road use funds.

I encourage everyone to stay informed regarding COVID-19 developments by visiting our website at www.wdm.iowa.gov.


Tom Hadden

The WDM magazine was produced by the City of West Des Moines, JM Impressions and Colorfx.

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REC RP PLEX



New Programs

- Learn To Skate Classes
- Introduction to eSports
- Youth basketball, soccer & figure skating

Adult Leagues

Business Opportunities

- Advertising space available throughout the facility
- Banquet & Meeting Room Space

Community Recreation

- Open Gym, Turf and Ice Times
- Indoor Walking Area
- Kids Drop In Playtime
- Pickleball Courts
- Batting Cages
- Kids Climbing Wall

www.TheRecPlex.com



ENJOY THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
ADVENTURE AWAITS
AT THE
RACCOON RIVER PARK
BOATHOUSE



Raccoon River Park is now featuring a new state-of-the-art boathouse that will give our community the opportunity to enjoy canoeing, kayaking, stand-up paddleboarding and paddleboating on the beautiful Blue Heron Lake.

The Raccoon River Park Boathouse serves as a river trail and land trail hub offering easy access to the water. Canoe, kayak, paddleboard and paddleboat rentals from CanoeSport Outfitters will allow outdoors enthusiasts of all experience levels the opportunity to experience Blue Heron Lake in new ways. For those who own personal watercraft, storage lockers may be rented seasonally, allowing you to keep your kayak or paddleboard easily accessible (see page 10 of the Parks and Recreation insert for more information on locker rentals).

Watercraft Rental Fees

	Capacity	1/2 Hour	Hour	Day
Paddleboats	2-3 people	\$8	\$11	\$39
Canoes	2-3 people	\$10	\$13	\$44
Kayaks	1 person	\$10	\$13	\$50
Double Kayaks	2 people	\$13	\$17	\$53
Fishing Kayak	1 person	\$13	\$17	\$53
Stand-up Paddleboard	1 person	\$10	\$13	\$48

Prices include taxes. Paddles and lifejackets are included with all rentals..

Regular Hours of Operation

Memorial Day Weekend until the beginning of West Des Moines School Year
Sunday through Friday 10 am to 8 pm
Saturday 8 am to 8 pm

The Raccoon River Park Boathouse was funded by LOSST (Local Option Sales and Services Tax) monies and by an Iowa DNR REAP (Resource Enhancement and Protection) grant. For more information on the Boathouse, call 515-440-4787.

The Boathouse is the first element of the Five Waters Project to be completed, to be followed soon by the Jamie Hurd Amphitheater. Learn more at www.wdm.iowa.gov/FiveWaters





WDM PUBLIC SERVICES

Even during a pandemic when the office is closed to the public, Public Services employees are working for our residents. All possible precautions are taken to keep workers and citizens safe while working on:

Sanitary and Storm Sewers

Inspections, repairs to sewer systems including lift stations, pipe and drainage ditches.

Street Maintenance

Inspections, pothole and other street repairs.

Unimproved Streets

Inspections, dust control and maintenance of gravel roadways.

Traffic Safety

Inspections and maintenance of traffic signals, school speed zone flashing beacons, inspection and replacement of traffic and street signs and painting of pavement markings.

Parks Maintenance

Mowing of City property and maintenance of parks and playgrounds.

Forestry and Horticulture

Inspection and maintenance of trees in the right-of-way; designing, establishing and maintaining horticultural and landscaping on City property and in Valley Junction.

Due to COVID-19, some Public Services events were postponed earlier this year. Please check the City website at www.wdm.iowa.gov for updates about Spring Cleanup, large and extra item curb pickup, and Scrap Tire Dropoff.

Metro Waste Authority facilities are available for your disposal needs throughout the year. Check their website at www.WhereliShouldGo.com or call 515-244-0021.

Street Sweeping

Streets are swept as scheduled, approximately once every five weeks.

Community Compliance

Helping to keep West Des Moines beautiful and safe by working with citizens to correct code violations.

Fleet Maintenance

Repair and maintenance of all City vehicles and equipment including fire trucks, police vehicles and ambulances.

Facility Maintenance

Maintenance of all City buildings, pools, fountains and other structures.

Responding to our Residents

Answering your questions and keeping you informed.

Your Public Services Department has always been available and ready to respond whenever an urgent situation arises. That's what we do, whether it's windstorms, flooding, snow and yes, pandemics. Our team of resilient and dedicated employees are honored to work for you!

COMMUNITY COMPLIANCE CORNER

The City's Community Compliance Specialists work diligently to help keep West Des Moines beautiful and in compliance with City Code. Their mission is to help educate and work with residents to avoid abatement.

Receiving a letter or notice posted by a Community Compliance Specialist not only lets a resident know of a violation and how to resolve the issue, but it also provides an opportunity for a conversation to answer questions. The City always favors education over citations and abatements. Here are some common Code issues you may not be aware of:

Everyone appreciates a good neighbor who takes care of their property:

- Mows their lawn
- Rakes their leaves
- Shovels their sidewalks
- Has a friendly smile and a good word!

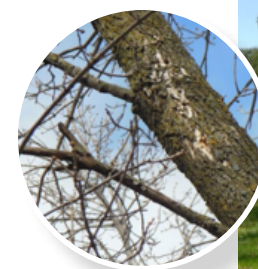
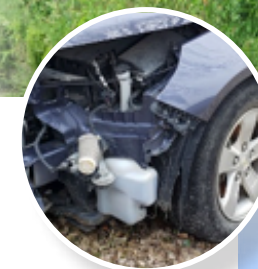
Any collection of dead brush or trees must be removed and disposed of properly.

Vehicles and trailers within the city need to be licensed, operable and on a hard surface or placed in a garage.

Weeds or vegetation allowed to grow to a height greater than ten inches (10") on average must be mowed.

Trees or shrubs need to be pruned to prevent obstruction of public walks, trails or streets.

Trees or shrubs located within private property which are dead, diseased or insect ridden, deemed to be a nuisance and constitute a hazard may require removal by the property owner.



SCRAP APPLIANCE & METAL DROP-OFF

**Saturday
September 12, 2020
8 a.m. to 12:00 noon**

These items will be
accepted – **FREE** –
along with general scrap metal

Air Conditioners (all sizes)	Humidifiers
Batteries, Lead Acid	Ice Makers
Blenders/Mixers	Metal - Most anything
Toasters	Metal Shelving
Calculators	Microwaves
Cameras, Camcorders	Mowers - Riding
Cell Phones	Mowers - Walk Behind
Chillers	Phones
Computer Towers	Pots, Pans
Servers	Electric Skillets
Condenser Units	Printers
Copiers	Refrigeration Units
Dehumidifiers	Rooftop AC Units
Dishwashers	Saws
Dryers	Speakers
DVD Players	Stereo systems
Exercise Equipment	Stoves
Fans	Vacuums
Fax Machines	VCRs
Freezers (no food)	Video Game Systems
Furnaces	Washers
Garage Doors & Openers	Water Coolers
General Scrap Metal	Water Heaters
	Water Softeners (no salt)

The City of West Des Moines is offering residents a convenient opportunity to recycle unwanted items!

Residents may bring scrap appliances and metal to the West Des Moines Public Services facility located at 560 S. 16th Street on Saturday, September 12, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 (noon).

NOTE

This event is subject to cancellation due to COVID-19.

Please check the City's website to confirm the event is being held before bringing your items.

These items
will **NOT** be
accepted

Anything with food in it
Chemicals
Garbage
Light Bulbs
Paint
Plastics
Wood

NO PAPER SHREDDING

Paper shredding will not be provided due to the variety of privately sponsored paper shredding events in our area throughout the year. Additional options to dispose of confidential documents are available at www.mwatoday.com (search for paper shredding).

Televisions and Monitors are **accepted** at a **cost**.

- **\$15 Each TV or Monitor**
- **\$30 Each Console or Big Screen**
- Cash or Check Only**

Note: Residents participating in City-provided solid waste collection may dispose of TVs and monitors of any type by putting them at the curb by 6AM on their normal collection day with the appropriate \$5 sticker(s). For more information on curbside pickup, contact Metro Waste Authority at <https://www.mwatoday.com/recycling-guide/item/computer-electronic-waste.aspx> and look under "Curbside Garbage." The TVs/monitors will be landfilled vs. recycled.

H & W Recycling is partnering with the City of West Des Moines in this collection event and will provide personnel to assist with unloading. If you have any questions, please call the Public Services Department at 222-3480 or H & W Recycling at 641-227-3200.

Residents dropping off scrap appliances and anything metal.



SCHOOL CROSSING SAFETY



It's time to begin thinking about school crossing safety as West Des Moines students return to school.

Cooperation among **parents, students, motorists, schools, and public safety and engineering departments** is crucial to the safety of children as they walk to and from school. It is important that each group is aware of their responsibility for maintaining safe routes to schools for children.

Visit the West Des Moines website and search school crossing safety to learn about what each team member can do to promote crossing safety.



As summer comes to a close, we'll soon be looking forward to Winter!



\$50 Ticket and/or a Tow
Unhappy Neighbors, too!

The next edition of the West Des Moines Magazine will provide details you'll want to know about winter weather management!



Remember: When it snows, it's likely there will be a Parking Ban on City streets.

Parking

When winter weather arrives, the City puts a Snow Emergency Parking Ban in place to allow Public Services crews to efficiently and effectively clear roadways. If you normally park your vehicle on a City street, you have plenty of time NOW to put a plan in place for where you will park if there is a Snow Emergency Parking Ban.

Plan ahead to help ensure you'll be ready for winter weather.



GROW GOLD COMPOST

Fall is the perfect time to score extra points on your lawn or garden! Whether you're wanting to spruce up your planters with some mums, or give your lawn nutrients before the ground freezes, Grow Gold Compost can advance your projects to the next level.

THE HERO

Grow Gold Compost has many noble qualities that are sure to rescue your lawn and garden projects. Since it's made up of materials rich in nitrogen and carbon, it is an all-natural soil enhancement that will add nutrients to your projects and help them retain water. This means it's game-over for frequent watering and chemical fertilizer.

CHOOSE YOUR QUEST

Compost is easy to apply, but the quest you choose will have its own set of rules to earn extra lives for your projects.

QUEST 1: Establish a new lawn

Before seeding, mix 1-2 inches of compost with the top 3-5 inches of soil per week. Once seeded, apply 1/2 inch of the mixture to the surface of the area per week.



Metro Waste Authority
We Know Where It Should Go

QUEST 2: Maintain your lawn

Top with 1/4 inch of compost after aerating once or twice per year.

QUEST 3: Flower + Vegetable Gardens

A few weeks prior to planting, apply a mixture of 1-2 inches of compost and 3-5 inches of soil.

HOW TO CAPTURE

There are three ways to capture Grow Gold Compost: Bulk, Bag or Retailers.

For bonus information about the qualities or quests of compost, visit the Metro Waste Authority website at www.WhereItShouldGo.com.



ECO FRIENDLY ALTERNATIVES

As many of us have spent more time at home this year, it's been a great opportunity to put a little extra time into forming new habits. A habit we can all get behind is eco conscious decision making.

This doesn't only apply to how full your recycling cart is each week, or how clean your peanut butter jar is before you toss it in your cart.

Life is different, and the Earth has noticed. More time at home has resulted in fewer cars on the road, fewer lunches packed in zip-lock bags, and fewer empty latte cups in the garbage. Air quality has improved, and muddy waters became clear, a result of our changing habits.



When life gets back to normal, our new and improved habits can be here to stay.

Bring your own water bottle instead of using disposable. Sure, disposable water bottles are recyclable, but reducing our use is better overall. Think about portioning snacks out in jars or reusable baggies vs. purchasing individually wrapped items or single-use "baggies."

Thinking ahead helps save the Earth, and it can also help save you money. It just takes a little extra time and thought. Take things day by day and keep the Earth in mind as you go about your daily life.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Many people don't realize common household cleaners, bug spray and even some paints are hazardous waste and need to be disposed of with special care. To serve the needs of residents for safe, smart hazardous waste disposal, houseside collection is available throughout the metro.

Houseside collection works like an Amazon or grocery delivery. If you want to use the service, simply sign up and Metro Waste Authority (MWA) will come to you. The service is provided as-needed; you only pay if you choose



to use it. For a \$25 fee, MWA will deliver two 12-gallon plastic bins to fill with things like paint or lawn chemicals, and a large plastic bag for items that are too large for the bins such as computers, printers or laptops. Check out the full list of accepted items at www.WhereItShouldGo.com/hhwhouseside.

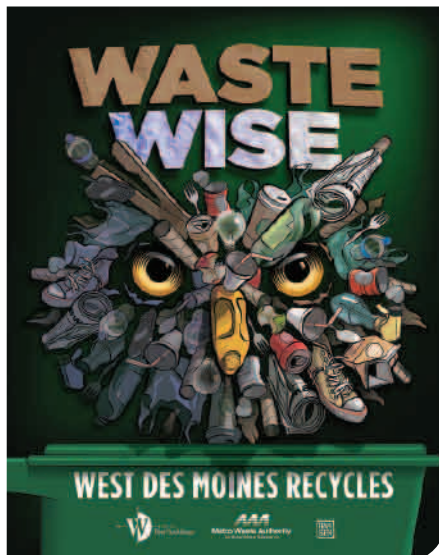
Once your bins and bag are prepped, you can schedule collection by calling 515.244.0021. All you have to do is place your bins out by 8 AM.

If you are doing some long overdue cleaning, items like electronic waste, fertilizer, CFLs, gasoline, sharps, and more can be disposed of through houseside hazardous waste collection.

WDM PUBLIC ARTS

Artistic Environmental Education throughout West Des Moines

By now, you may have noticed several traffic signal and fiber boxes throughout West Des Moines that are wrapped in artistically designed vinyl. Partially funded by a Metro Waste Authority grant, the Public Arts Advisory Commission commissioned artist Clint Hansen, Urbandale, to create artwork for eight separate locations. The eight environmental topics that Hansen has designed for are solar energy, water quality, recycling, hazardous waste disposal, wind energy, composting, plastics use, and tree planting. We challenge you to find all eight and pass the messages they convey on to others! You can learn more about Clint Hansen at www.clinthansen.com.



If you are interested in serving on the West Des Moines Public Arts Advisory Commission, please contact the West Des Moines City Clerk at 515-222-3603 to request an application.

HOW IS PUBLIC ART FUNDED?

Annual funding for public art in West Des Moines comes from hotel-motel tax revenue dedicated by the City Council for that purpose.

2020 Art on the Campus People's Choice Award

"The Sacrifice" by Travis Apel Omaha, NE

Omaha artist Travis Apel has a vision to translate the anatomy of nature through metal and stone sculpture for the purpose of expanding a cumulative, thought-provoking culture. Apel has exhibited throughout the Midwest and New England, and has collections nationally.



About "The Sacrifice": "I made the work from strips of welded mild steel and fabricated the work at Metropolitan Community College Welding Lab in Omaha, NE. The

inspiration for the work combines the anatomical structure of a human vertebrae, which to me symbolize strength, courage, and the helmet for the "spine." The mission of creating this sculpture was to honor all of the fallen warriors that preserve our democracy – military service members, law enforcement, whistleblowers, journalists, artists, and social critics alike."

You can learn more about Travis Apel at www.travisapel.com.

Artist Selected for the Jamie Hurd Amphitheater Public Art Project



The Jamie Hurd Amphitheater Public Art Project Work Group has selected an artist to create a work of art that will be placed on the Jamie Hurd Amphitheater site in 2021. Kentucky artist Douwe Blumberg has a wide range of artistic expression and his images attest to a body of work which unabashedly explores a diversity of styles and subjects. This is completely intentional, reflecting a deep commitment to approach each art opportunity with a creative blank slate. It is important to Blumberg that his artistic vision be guided solely by the site, its people and energy, resulting in works that truly feel "organic" to their sites. Over the last decade Blumberg has created dozens of sculptural artworks across the nation from Ground Zero in New York City, west to Las Vegas, San Francisco and William Shatner's estate in Los Angeles; from Orlando north to the University of Wisconsin with dozens of municipalities in between and overseas. You can learn more about Douwe Blumberg at www.douwestudios.com.

The Jamie Hurd Amphitheater Public Art Project is partially funded by a generous grant from BRAVO Greater Des Moines.



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVING WEST DES MOINES

BECOME A WDMHS MEMBER TODAY

THE WEST DES MOINES HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS A PRIVATELY FUNDED NONPROFIT INSTITUTION THAT RELIES ON THE GENEROSITY OF ITS FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS. HELP US PRESERVE THE LEGACY OF WEST DES MOINES HISTORY THROUGH MEMBERSHIP.

515.225.1286



wdmhs.org

"Profiles of Courage; Iowa Women & the Underground Railroad"

This new exhibit at the Jordan House Museum is the result of a Senior Honors Project by 2020 Valley High School graduate Lauren Gilbert, who is also a 2019 James Jordan Scholar. Ms. Gilbert wanted to incorporate more women's history into the tour of the Jordan House, and researched four amazing women who were directly involved in Iowa's Underground Railroad and contributed to their communities in many other ways.

The West Des Moines Historical Society created standing representations of these four amazing women, and visitors to the Jordan House Museum will meet them during a tour.



Pictured (left to right)
Cynthia Jordan, Juliet Hall Worth Stillman Severance,
Lauren Gilbert, Elvira Gaston Platt and Charlotta Pyles

Jordan House Museum Tours

visitors and staff are required to wear a mask during the tour. If a visitor doesn't have a mask, one will be provided.

Following CDC guidelines, public tours will be limited to 10 people per tour. For Friday tours, 5 tickets will be available to purchase online, and 5 tickets will be left open for walk ups. All tickets for Sunday tours must be reserved by the Friday before, by 5pm. There are no walk up tours Sunday.

The link to purchase Jordan House tour tickets can be found at www.wdmhs.org or on the West Des Moines Historical Society's Facebook page. For more information, please call 225-1286.

Friday and Sunday • 11am & 1pm

Walk in the footsteps of history at the Jordan House Museum, 2001 Fuller Road.

Public self-guided tours will be available Friday and Sunday, at 11am and 1pm. All

EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB) UPDATE



At this point into the growing season, it has become very apparent just how prevalent emerald ash borer is throughout WDM. Most ash trees that have not been treated for EAB are showing symptoms ranging from the initial dieback in the upper canopy to completely dead trees (lots of those).

Trees killed by EAB become dangerously brittle and are prone to failure without warning. WDM's City Code, 7-10-7E, references Public and Private "Dead, Diseased, or Insect Ridden Trees and Shrubs" that are deemed a nuisance and constitute a hazard to neighboring private property and/or public safety. The removal of such trees can be ordered by the City and with thousands of ash trees on private property in WDM, it's likely our two Specialists will sadly be quite busy.

I have stressed for several years now that private property owners with ash trees need to decide whether or not to treat. If the choice is not to treat, then the trees(s) should be removed before they die! The removal cost for dead

and dying ash trees will be 30-300% (or more) higher than if the same tree was healthy. In addition, most homeowner insurance policies will not cover damage caused by diseased or insect infested trees. Ash trees that are within the treatment threshold (less than 20% dieback) can be protected with an injection of one of the emamectin benzoate formulations. This is a viable option at least through August but needs to be performed by a certified pesticide applicator. The homeowner products available in lawn and garden departments could provide protection to small diameter trees but with less promise of success than injection treatments.

Address your ash trees SOON to avoid what could be an incredibly expensive removal or even worse, a tragic accident.



John Olds,
WDM Urban
Forestry Supervisor

YARD WASTE

Yard waste, including grass clippings, leaves, brush and tree limbs, should NEVER be placed in the street or near storm drains, ditches, creeks or rivers.

Why? They can clog storm sewers and culverts which can cause flooding. Also, decaying yard waste uses the oxygen in the water, harming aquatic plants and wildlife, causing streams to become unsightly and causing foul odors.

We can all help prevent flooding if we:

- Bag or mulch our yard waste, and help keep our storm sewers clean and unobstructed.
- Learn more by visiting www.mwatoday.com, click on "Residents" in the horizontal menu and select "Yard Waste" from the dropdown menu or visit www.wdm.iowa.gov and type "yard waste" in the search box.
- Limit lawn chemicals, pick up pet waste and help keep our water sources clean!

Residential Soil Quality Restoration Reimbursement Program

Soil quality restoration (SQR) is the process of improving soil health on new or existing lawns. The process uses tillage, aeration, and compost to increase infiltration and organic matter content. Soil quality restoration leads to healthier, more functional soils and to landscapes that can absorb more rainwater and shed less runoff.

Why not improve our city's water quality and get a healthier, greener lawn at the same time?

West Des Moines homeowners are eligible for a 50% match with a maximum reimbursement of \$1,500 per address per year.

WHY SOIL QUALITY RESTORATION?

REDUCES THE NEED FOR FERTILIZING AND WATERING

Healthy lawns enable air and water to better penetrate the soil, promote good rainwater retention and drainage, and allow the establishment of important soil organisms.

REDUCES HARMFUL STORM WATER RUN-OFF

Compacted soils with no organic matter cause nearly all the water to runoff during rainfall. Storm water runoff flows untreated to storm sewers, and washes associated pollutants directly into nearby streams, rivers, lakes and wetlands.

REDUCES THE RATE OF EROSION

The natural rate of erosion tends to speed up when development disturbs top soil or when the soil is highly compacted. Roots from healthy grass grip the soil and will effectively prevent the excess movement of soil throughout the ground.

YOUR LAWN WILL BECOME HEALTHIER

Soil quality restoration improves lawn and landscape health by increasing porosity and organic matter content, breaking down nutrients and making them available to plants, improving plant hardiness and vigor, and retaining more water in the landscape.



Residential Rain Barrel Reimbursement Program

Storm water that runs off your roof often flows untreated into city storm sewers and local waterways. A rain barrel can capture some of that rainfall for later use on your property. Rain barrels come in a wide variety of materials, designs, and colors and are simply containers that capture and store rainfall from a roof downspout for non-potable uses such as irrigation. Capturing and reusing rainwater from your roof reduces demand on the sewer system and protects the quality of streams and groundwater. The Residential Rain Barrel Reimbursement Program is a costshare program.

WHY USE A RAIN BARREL?

SAVES HOMEOWNERS MONEY

Have you noticed the drip, drip, drip of your rising water bill? The cost of water is increasing nationally, no matter where you live. Yet rainwater is free. If we are using 70% of our expensive drinking water for outdoor usage doesn't it make sense to tap into the huge source of free water splashing off your roof?

REDUCES STORM WATER RUN-OFF

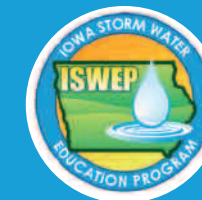
Capturing rainwater in a barrel before it hits the ground decreases storm water run-off, which carries pollutants from paved surfaces into groundwater and rivers. These pollutants suffocate our water supplies and result in costly treatment facilities, affecting the quality of our recreational water. Storm water run-off also has a huge impact on the ecosystem.

PLANTS PREFER RAINWATER

Non-chlorinated organic rainwater is better for your plants than what comes out of the tap and it shows in the garden. Try watering a small plant with tap water for a few days to see the difference.

IT IS SUSTAINABLE

Harvesting and using your own rainwater is a first and easy step towards sustainability, lowers your carbon foot print, and teaches conservation.



For more information about these reimbursement programs and to download an application, visit wdm.iowa.gov/StormwaterBMP or contact City of West Des Moines Engineering Services Department at **515.222.3475**
4200 Mills Civic Parkway,
West Des Moines, IA 50265

Adopt a Park, Trail or Street in West Des Moines!

Are you tired of seeing trash in a park, on a trail, or along a street near your home? Are you ready to do something about it?

We need you or your local group to adopt one of West Des Moines' parks, trails or streets and help make a difference in our community! Resources needed to accomplish a cleanup will be provided by the City. After your group has officially adopted a park, trail or street, a sign will be placed to recognize your sponsoring group.

*Funding for these projects provided by
Metro Waste Authority*



For more information or to sign up online, go to <http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/i-want-to/sign-up-for/volunteer-opportunities>.



Did you know carbon monoxide detectors have a lifespan?

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless and tasteless gas that is poisonous to humans. It is often called the “silent killer.” CO is produced by any fuel-burning device, such as a furnace, dryer or fireplace. According to the National Fire Protection Association, CO poisoning is the number one cause of accidental poisoning in the United States each year.

A carbon monoxide detector is a safety device that can alert homeowners of a CO leak and help them escape a potential life-threatening situation. Iowa passed a law in 2018 requiring carbon monoxide detectors in every home. Most carbon monoxide detectors have a lifespan of about seven years before they lose efficiency. Leaving old devices in place puts people at risk of serious and sometimes fatal carbon monoxide poisoning. Check the back of your detector for a date.

A carbon monoxide detector has different beep patterns to communicate. It is

important to know the difference between the beeps.

- **4 beeps and a pause:** This means there is carbon monoxide in the air and you should seek fresh air immediately and call 9-1-1.
- **1 beep every minute:** This means that the detector has low batteries and you should replace them.
- **5 beeps every minute:** This means your detector has reached the end of its life and needs to be replaced with a new carbon monoxide detector.

Carbon monoxide detectors should be installed on every level, inside every bedroom and outside each sleeping area of your home. Test your CO detector monthly. If your detector has replaceable batteries, they should be changed every year. It's important that you take the necessary safety steps to make sure your family is ready for the unexpected.

WDM Public Library



Mission Statement: The WDM Public Library enriches the quality of life of community residents by providing convenient, timely and equal access to information and ideas. The library is committed to offering engaging activities, opportunities for personal and professional growth, promoting the love of reading and learning while remaining responsive to the changing needs of the community.

Dear Library Users....

As we prepare our portion of the fall WDM Magazine in early June, the library has been closed to the public since March 19 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, library services have been offered to the public via telephone, social media, and curbside holds pickup. Construction projects continue and some are ahead of schedule. We've pushed funds toward new streaming services like Hoopla and Kanopy.

Plans to re-open on June 15 included new reduced hours and new safety protocols: concierge desk, masks required, sneeze guards, spaced seating and computer stations, toys in storage, no meeting rooms,

etc. We have asked that all patrons be efficient in their time using the library to allow service to more users, and to be aware of social distancing for their own health and the safety of others.

Virtual programming is likely to continue. Rather than publish our projected fall program offerings, we encourage you to follow us on Facebook or Twitter and check our website for the latest information. The programs we are listing here are, of course, subject to change. Like you, we can't wait for things to get back to normal. We're more than ready to put the “public” back in public library.

— Darryl Eschete & The WDM Library Staff



wdmlibrary.org





ABRAHAM LINCOLN EXPERIENCE: A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM

DATE/TIME: TBA

Hear about the events which led Lincoln back into politics, his election, and of course, the Civil War. Includes excerpts from famous speeches and writings that will inspire you to hope, as he did, for a "new birth of freedom" for our country. Featuring Kevin Wood as Mr. Lincoln. Sponsored by the WDM Library Friends Foundation. No registration!



Photo by Brian Schultz

MANAGING STRESS

Thu, Sep 17 | 7-8 pm | Community Room

The term "stress" is used loosely in our culture. What does it really mean? Learn all about stress and ways to manage it in your own life. Presented by Gary Rasmussen, Director of Education for the National Alliance on Mental Illness-Greater Des Moines (NAMI). Registration preferred. 515.222.3403 | wdmlibrary.org/calendar



ADULT BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Sponsored by the WDM Library Friends Foundation



YA NOT CLUB READ

2nd Thu | 6:30-8 pm | Sep 10, Oct 8, Nov 12, Dec 10 | Community Rm

CLUB READ/CLUB READ SOCIAL

1st Tue | 2 & 6:30 pm | Sep 1, Oct 6, Nov 1, Dec 6 (6:30 pm) | Community Rm

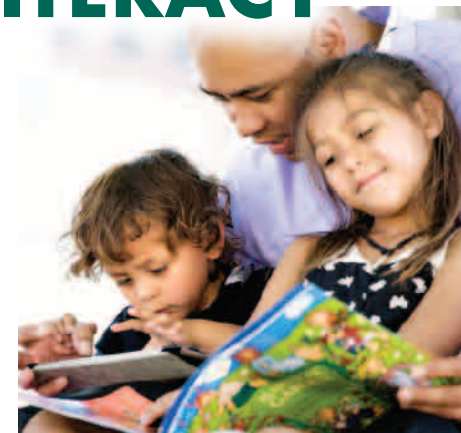
SILENT CLUB READ

1st Mon | Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7 | 6:30-8 pm | Southwoods Rm



EARLY LITERACY

"Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they actually learn to read and write. It is not the teaching of reading, but is laying the foundation for reading so that when children are taught to read, they are ready." – from Early Literacy Storytimes @ Your Library by Pamela Martin-Diaz and Saroj Nadkarni Ghoting.



Why is Early Literacy important?

Acquiring early literacy (pre-literacy) skills before school leads to reading achievement and academic success. Children who enter school with well-developed early literacy skills are ready to learn to read.

What are the Six Early Literacy Skills?

1. Letter Knowledge – knowing the names and sounds of letters; recognizing that the same letter can look different (upper vs. lower case, different fonts)
2. Narrative Skills – being able to describe events and tell stories
3. Phonological Awareness – the ability to hear and play with the smaller sounds that make up words
4. Print Awareness – noticing print; the ability to handle a book; understanding how to follow the words on a page
5. Print Motivation – showing interest and enjoying books
6. Vocabulary – knowing the names of things

What can YOU do to help your child?

- Allow your child time to talk while you listen attentively
- Encourage your child to handle books and "tell" you the story
- Provide an atmosphere that is fun and language rich
- Read often and make reading time an enjoyable time
- Read, sing, talk, and play with your child
- Write and color with your child to develop fine motor skills

How can the WDM LIBRARY help?

- Ask a librarian for suggestions
- Use our recommended reading lists to find materials your child may enjoy
- Check out library materials to use at home
- Attend age appropriate library programs (see our Storytime Series)



1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN 0-6 yrs & Parents

Read to succeed! The best and the brightest have parents who read to them. Track the time YOU read with your child. When you reach 1000 books, pick up a free book for your home collection! Register anytime online.



ONE PASS, FIVE ADVENTURES

WDM residents with WDM library cards in good standing may check out passes to five local attractions: The Blank Park Zoo, Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens, Living History Farms, Reiman Gardens, and Science Center of Iowa.

See our website for more information.
wdmlibrary.org/advpass

HOTSPOTS

Check out a "HotSpot" devices from the WDM Library! HotSpots provide password-protected wi-fi access in places where it might not otherwise be available, like road trips, campgrounds, and more. Available to WDM residents, ages 18 & up, with WDM Library cards in good standing (no lost items or fines). Users are financially responsible for lost or damaged HotSpots. 515.222.3403

SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES WHEN YOU JOIN THE FRIENDS!

Our community library is fortunate to have the support of the Friends Foundation – a volunteer-based, non-profit organization. Each year, the Friends contribute \$12,000 to library programming for all ages.

Did You Know? During the last fiscal year, the library offered more than 500 youth programs with almost 23,000 attendees. Memberships provide incentives to the 2500 youth participating in Summer Reading Club – SRC encourages readers to keep learning over the break!

Friends Memberships also funded these special projects:

- Rotating Outreach Collection • Outreach Van • TaleTrail • Charging Stations
- BookPage • Laptop Lab • iPads • Artwork • and More!

★ YOUR DONATION IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE! ★

Like the Friends on Facebook @ WDMLibraryFriend

WDM Library Friends Foundation, 4000 Mills Civic Pkwy, WDM, IA 50265.
515.222.3407 | wdmlibrary.org/support-the-library

WDM Library *services*

All services are **free** unless otherwise indicated.

Call 515.222.3400

LIBRARY HOURS

(Labor – Memorial Day)

Mon-Thu: 9 am-9pm | Fri: 9 am-6 pm
Sat: 9 am-5 pm* | Sun: 2 pm-5 pm*

* SUMMER HOURS

Sat: 10 am-4 pm | Sun: Closed
Call or check our website for holiday hours.
515.222.3400 | wdmlibrary.org

GET A LIBRARY CARD... IT'S FREE!

Present valid ID with proof of current address. Residents of WDM, DSM, Ankeny, Clive, Urbandale, and Windsor Heights may apply. Cards are valid for three years.

WDMLIBRARY.ORG

Access the library 24/7 from the comfort of home.

• CHECK YOUR ACCOUNT BY PHONE OR ONLINE

515.225.1576
■ wdmlibrary.org/my-account

• RENEW ITEMS BY PHONE OR ONLINE

515.225.1576
■ wdmlibrary.org/my-account

• REQUEST ITEMS BY PHONE OR ONLINE

515.222.3400 ■ wdmlibrary.org/requests

• GET MOBILE ACCESS TO YOUR ACCOUNT AND OUR WEBSITE

515.222.3403 ■ wdmlibrary.org/app

• FIND REFERENCE TOOLS AND DATABASES

In the library and/or from home.
515.222.3403 ■ wdmlibrary.org/databases

• **ACCESS E-BOOKS, AUDIOBOOKS, VIDEO & MORE**
515.222.3403 ■ wdmlibrary.org

• **RESERVE PUBLIC MEETING & STUDY ROOMS**

Call for guidelines/reservation details.
515.222.3400 ■ wdmlibrary.org

• **REQUEST HOMEBOUND DELIVERY**

515.222.3400 ■ wdmlibrary.org

• **BORROW FROM OUR BOOK CLUB COLLECTION**

515.222.3585 children's ■ 515.222.3410 adults ■ wdmlibrary.org

• **REGISTER FOR EVENTS**

515.222.3400 ■ wdmlibrary.org/calendar

• **MAKE A DONATION**

515.222.3407 ■ wdmlibrary.org/ support-the-library/friends-foundation

• **FIND BARGAINS IN THE FRIENDS BOOK SALE AREA**

• **VOLUNTEER**

515.222.3400 ■ wdmlibrary.org

• **TECHNOLOGY & EQUIPMENT**

For use in the library and/or checkout.
515.222.3400 ■ wdmlibrary.org

• **READ LIBRARY BLOGS**

Latest program updates, book lists, staff picks, reading/literacy tips, and more.

• **YOUTH SERVICES**

Babies through Young Adult (YA).
515.222.3403 ■ wdmlibrary.org/calendar

• **LINK TO US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

515.222.3403 ■ wdmlibrary.org



• **WALK THE WDM LIBRARY TALETRAIL**

• **RENEW YOUR IOWA DRIVER'S LICENSE**

wdmlibrary.org/using-the-library/iowadot-drivers-license-renewal-kiosk

WDM Human Services

"The ♥ of the Community"

WDM Human Services provides necessary assistance to qualifying low-income, elderly and disabled individuals in our service area. Basic needs such as food, clothing, and emergency financial assistance are a few of the critical services provided. To learn more, visit our website or call 515-222-3660.

Please visit our website for changes in hours or services related to COVID-19, or call 515-222-3660: www.wdm.iowa.gov

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance available to eligible West Des Moines residents who are facing an eviction or utility disconnection. Outreach staff assess the situation and work to ensure the needs of the household are being met.

DMARC FOOD PANTRY

Food and personals available on a monthly basis.

CLOTHING CLOSET

Free clothing, shoes and housewares for qualifying households.

TRANSPORTATION

Assistance with accessing transportation services for elderly, disabled and low-income WDM residents. Eligibility requirements apply.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) provides a one-time annual credit on energy bills for eligible households. Program runs from October through April.

HANDYMAN SERVICES

Mowing, snow removal and minor home repair services available to income-eligible WDM senior and disabled residents.

FREE MEDICAL CLINIC

Basic medical care and management of chronic medical conditions to uninsured or under-insured individuals; all on-site services provided free of charge. The clinic is a member of Free Clinics of Iowa, the largest network of free medical clinics in the state of Iowa and a donor-supported, not-for-profit organization.

HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE

Variety of programs available to WDM residents to help alleviate the financial burden of the holiday season for qualifying households.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT CLASSES

English Language Learner (ELL) classes and High School Equivalency (HISET, formerly GED) classes offered from September through May.

YOUTH RECREATION ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance to WDM youth participating in activities offered through WDM Parks & Rec.

Please visit our website for a full listing of available programs as well as income and service area guidelines for each program: www.wdm.iowa.gov/HumanServices

Partner with WDM Human Services to help our neighbors in need!

WDM Human Services Current Needs

Personal Pantry

Each month WDM Human Services assists approximately 375 low-income households with personal care products. We need your help to meet the needs in our community. The following items are needed on an on-going basis:

- Laundry detergent
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene products
- Toilet Paper
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Diapers (esp. larger sizes)
- Soap

Clothing Closet

Our clothing closet is in need of new or gently used, children's, teen, and adult clothing and shoes for the current season. We also need towels, sheets, blankets, toys and small household items. Clothing Closet donations are accepted Monday through Friday, 8:30 am – 4 pm, at 139 6th Street in West Des Moines. Donations are also accepted on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month up until 6:00 pm. Donation receipts are available.

Volunteer Today!

Volunteers are needed in the Clothing Closet, Food Pantry and for ELL classes at West Des Moines Human Services. Opportunities are available Monday through Friday between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm as well as on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month up until 6:00 pm. Convenient location in Valley Junction neighborhood. Must be 14 years or older. To learn more, please contact Mindy Hotovec at 222-3663 or visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/HumanServices.

ELL Classes at WDM Human Services

English Language Learner classes for adults are offered at West Des Moines Human Services. The classes take place on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10 am to noon in eight week sessions. Volunteer tutors are needed to assist with the classes. Volunteers will provide small group and one-on-one instruction for adult learners. Knowledge of a second language is not necessary to volunteer. We are also in need of childcare volunteers for the classes.

Call 222-3663 for more information or to register as a student or volunteer!



Help Your Neighbors In Need

The holidays are just around the corner and you are invited to add one or more families to your holiday list by participating in West Des Moines Human Services' holiday assistance programs.

West Des Moines Human Services is a non-profit organization that provides assistance to low-income, elderly and disabled individuals in our service area. Many of our community members are surviving on very limited incomes and struggle to afford even the most basic of necessities. The holiday season can be particularly difficult for these individuals and families.

Please consider partnering with us to assist these struggling members of our community. Gifts can be delivered directly to a family, or you may deliver your gifts to West Des Moines Human Services. **The following opportunities are available:**

Thanksgiving

Sponsors are needed to provide grocery gift cards.

Adopt-A-Family Program

Sponsors are matched with a WDM family in need and asked to provide gifts for the children in the household. A "wish list" for the family will be provided consisting of names, ages, genders and gift ideas for the children in the household. Sponsors may deliver the gifts directly to their "adopted" family or to WDM Human Services.

Giftland (formerly Toyland)

This program provides toys/gifts for kids who are not sponsored through the Adopt-A-Family program. Giftland will take place on December 14th at WDM Human Services.

Donations of new, unwrapped toys/gifts and gift cards are needed for this event.

Monetary Gifts and Gift Cards

Monetary donations and grocery gift cards are also appreciated as this allows us to assist families during the holidays and throughout the year.

If you know of other individuals or organizations who may wish to participate, please share this information. We have many families and children who need assistance, and adopting a family is a wonderful tradition during the holidays. Please call 222-3663 for more information or visit our website at www.wdm.iowa.gov/HumanServices.

If you are interested in providing assistance, please complete the **Holiday Sponsor Form** by December 11th (November 18th for Thanksgiving) and send to:

West Des Moines Human Services
ATTN: Mindy Hotovec
139 6th Street, P.O. Box 65320
West Des Moines, Iowa 50265
Melinda.Hotovec@wdm.iowa.gov



HOLIDAY SPONSOR FORM

Contact Name _____ Organization (if applicable) _____

Street Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Telephone Number _____ E-mail Address _____

☐ I will deliver directly to the family.

☐ I will deliver to WDM Human Services.

Have you been a sponsor in the past?

☐ Yes ☐ No

I would like to participate in the following holiday assistance programs:

Please check the program(s) and fill in the requested information.

☐ Food Card:

Purchase a **food card** from a local grocery provider for _____
(\$25 increment(s) please) (holiday)
I will provide _____ food card(s).

☐ Adopt-A-Family Holiday Program:

Minimum Requirements: Sponsors are asked to **provide gifts for the children living in the household up to age 18** consisting of at least two to three gifts per child. Of course, you may provide more if you desire. **(Optional:** Sponsors may also provide a food basket for the family consisting of the groceries needed for a holiday meal or a food card from a local grocery provider.)

I want to adopt _____ family(s). Maximum size of family(s): _____

Special Preferences: (ie, specific ages) _____

☐ Giftland

(Please deliver new, unwrapped toys/gifts to WDM Human Services by December 11th, 2020.)

☐ Monetary Contribution or Gift Cards

Your contribution will be used to assist families during the holidays and throughout the year.

Please make your check payable to: West Des Moines Human Services

Please return sponsor form to:

(Deadlines: Thanksgiving – 11/18, Christmas – 12/11)

WDM Human Services • Attention: Mindy Hotovec
139 6th Street, P.O. Box 65320, West Des Moines, IA 50265
Melinda.Hotovec@wdm.iowa.gov • 222-3663

FALL 2020

WDM Parks & Recreation

PROGRAM GUIDE

Registration Date:
Tuesday, August 11

We provide our
community everyday
enjoyment through
people, parks, and
programs.



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Pg. 30	Senior Programs
Pg. 31	Registration Form

RECREATION POLICIES

RECREATION PROGRAM REFUND POLICY

1. Full refunds will be given if the request is submitted no later than 7 days prior to the program start date.
2. Refund requests submitted less than 7 days before the start date will be charged a \$10 withdrawal fee.
3. Requests for refunds submitted after the event start date or completion of the program will not be considered.
4. Please allow 2-3 weeks to process a check refund for payments originally made by cash or check. No cash refunds will be given.
5. Payments made by credit/debit card will be refunded back to the original credit/debit card.
6. The Recreation Program Refund Policy does not apply to travel programs or adult sport leagues.
7. Refunds for medical situations will be considered on a case by case basis.

Please call the West Des Moines Parks and Recreation Administrative Office at 515.222.3444, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm to request a refund.

We reserve the right to cancel a program or activity that does not meet the minimum number of participants necessary to offer the program.

Fee discounts are available for WDM residents meeting assistance guidelines. Contact WDM Human Services at 515.222.3660.

The Parks & Recreation Department will not tolerate bullying* in any youth program or activity, and staff will do all they reasonably can to create a safe space for participants, regardless of an individual's actual or perceived age, color, creed/denomination, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes/appearance, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political belief, socioeconomic status, or familial status.

* For the purposes of this statement, bullying is defined as the unwanted, aggressive use of physical, social or mental/intellectual power to control, harm or humiliate another person in a repetitive or pervasive manner.

A fee of \$5 will be charged for each registration change made after participants are enrolled in the program.

It is the responsibility of the individual with a disability requiring accommodations to inform the Parks and Recreation Department at least 48 hours in advance.

FACILITIES

Administrative Office at WDM City Hall	4200 Mills Civic Parkway	515.222.3444
Holiday Aquatic Center*	1701 Railroad Avenue	515.273.0700
Holiday Park Baseball Complex*	1701 Railroad Avenue	515.222.3454
Jordan Cemetery	2950 Fuller Road	515.222.3444
Raccoon River Park Archery Facility	2500 Grand Avenue	515.222.3424
Raccoon River Park Dog Park	2500 Grand Avenue	515.222.3424
Raccoon River Park Nature Lodge*	2500 Grand Avenue	515.222.3424
Raccoon River Park Softball Complex*	2500 Grand Avenue	515.222.3454
Valley Junction Activity Center*	217 5th Street	515.222.3440
Valley View Aquatic Center*	255 81st Street	515.273.0700
Valley View Park Fields*	225 88th Street	515.222.3444

*Rentable Facility

RENTABLE SHELTERS

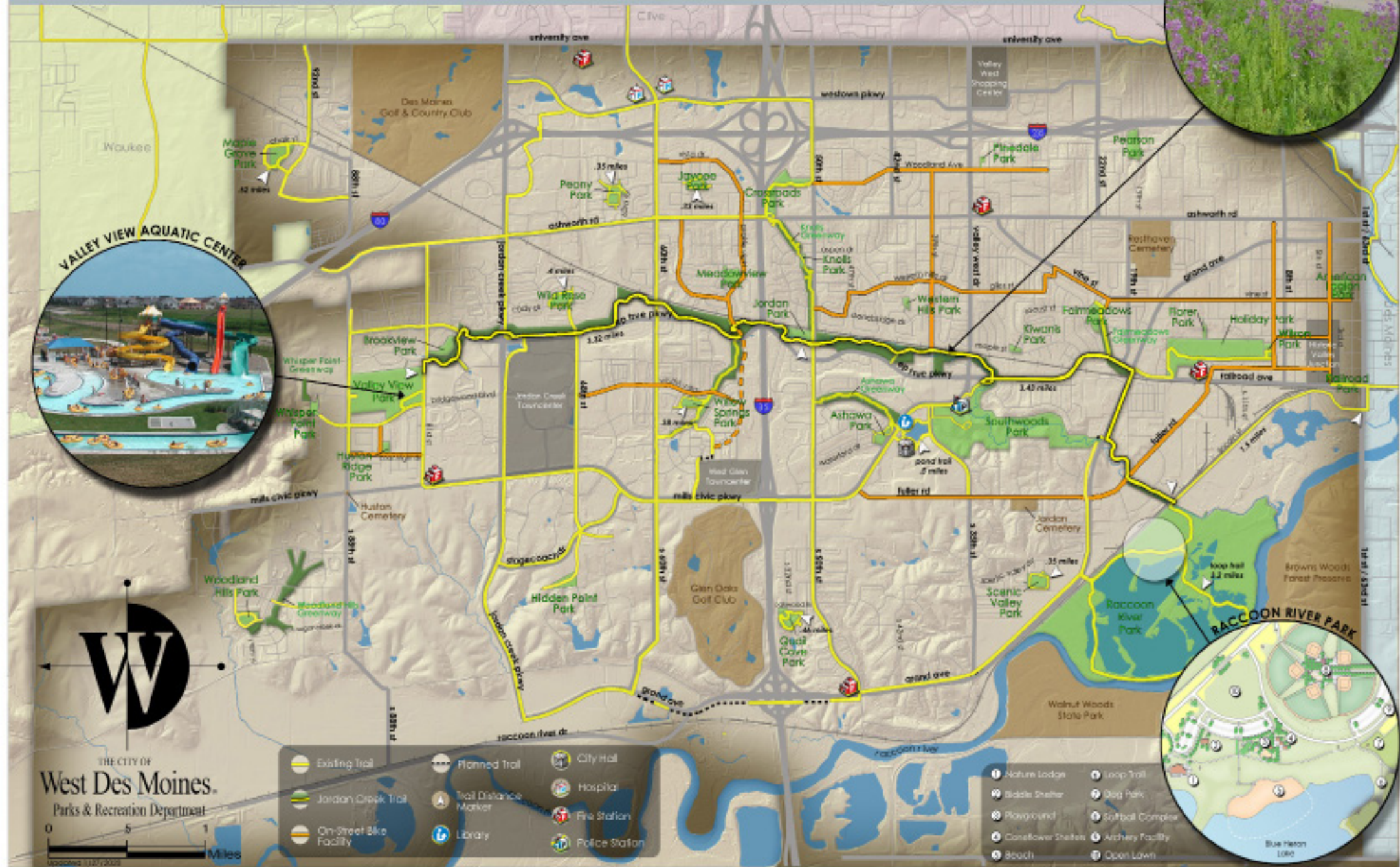
Reservations Begin	Shelter Rental Season	Rental Rate
January 1	Apr. 15 - Oct. 15	4 Hr Min @\$10/Hr

American Legion Park Shelter	301 Vine Street
Brookview Park Shelter	400 81st Street
Crossroads Park Shelter	5205 Ashworth Road
Fairmeadows Park Shelter	543 22nd Street
Pearson Park Shelter	256 19th Street
Raccoon River Park Shelters	2500 Grand Avenue
Valley View Park Shelter	225 88th Street

**Call 515.222.3444 to Reserve Shelters or
Reserve Online at www.wdm.iowa.gov/ShelterRental**

PARKS & TRAILS MAP

WEST DES MOINES PARKS & RECREATION



Raccoon River Park Nature Lodge

2500 Grand Avenue

515.222.3424

The Nature Lodge, located in Raccoon River Park, offers a unique rental space in a natural setting. The building sits along the northwest shore of Blue Heron Lake and provides a place to get away from the demands of city life to slow down and relax. Whether you are planning a company retreat or a special wedding reception, this quaint location provides you with all the convenience of modern living with an elegant, yet rustic appearance. The facility seats up to 120** people comfortably.



LAKEVIEW ROOM*	1/3	2/3	Full
EVENINGS/WKNDs	\$30/Hr.	\$60/Hr.	\$90/Hr.
WEEKDAYS (8am-5pm)	\$20/Hr.	\$40/Hr.	\$60/Hr.

*Sun-Fri 4 hr. minimum; Sat 10 hr. minimum (Apr-Oct); Sat 5 hr. minimum (Nov-Mar)

Valley Junction Activity Center

217 5th Street

515.222.3400

Looking for the perfect place for that birthday party, family reunion or organization meeting? The Valley Junction Activity Center, located in the heart of Valley Junction, is just the place for you! The facility offers a wide variety of meeting room spaces as well as two dining rooms available for public rental. The Grand Ballroom located on the second floor of the building provides an excellent space for wedding receptions and large dinner gatherings for up to 200** people.



ACTIVITY CENTER	Ballroom	Dining Room	Vets Room
EVENINGS/WKNDs	\$80/Hr.	\$30/Hr.	\$20/Hr.
WEEKDAYS (8am-5pm)	\$80/Hr.	\$20/Hr.	\$14/Hr.

** Please call each facility to understand rental restrictions due to COVID-19

Raccoon River Park Dog Park

2500 Grand Avenue

515.222.3424

Need a place to let your dog run off some excess energy? Dogs of all shapes and sizes enjoy romping through the 10 acre fenced play area of the Raccoon River Park Dog Park. The park features areas for both large and small dogs and is a great place to meet other dog lovers and enjoy each others' pets.

DOG PARK PERMITS	YEARLY	DAILY
RESIDENT	\$15	\$5*
NON-RESIDENT	\$40	\$5*

*Available for purchase online

All dogs residing in the City of West Des Moines are required by law to have a City Pet License in order to purchase a Raccoon River Dog Park Annual Permit. Users are required to purchase a Dog Park Permit to utilize the facility. Both yearly permits (calendar year) and daily permits are sold at the following locations:



Administrative Office at WDM City Hall 4200 Mills Civic Parkway 515.222.3444

Raccoon River Park Nature Lodge 2500 Grand Avenue 515.222.3424

For more info visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/DogPark

Raccoon River Park Archery Facility

2500 Grand Avenue

515.222.3424



The Archery Facility is the first of its kind in Iowa and includes the following features:

- Enclosure walls/fencing
- Shelter over shooting area
- 12 shooting lanes
- Overhead 'arrow curtains'
- Staging area
- Targets up to 40 yards distance

Users are required to purchase an Archery Permit to utilize the facility. Both yearly permits (calendar year) and daily permits are sold at the following prices and locations:

ARCHERY PERMITS	YEARLY RES.	YEARLY N-RES.	DAILY
ADULT	\$20	\$40	\$5*
YOUTH (under 16)	\$10	\$20	\$5*

*Available for purchase online

Administrative Office at WDM City Hall 4200 Mills Civic Parkway 515.222.3444

Raccoon River Park Nature Lodge 2500 Grand Avenue 515.222.3424

For more info visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/Archery

Raccoon River Park Softball Complex

2500 Grand Avenue

515.222.3454

Raccoon River Park Softball Complex is host to league and tournament players as well as rentals by private groups sponsoring youth and adult tournaments. This professionally maintained complex has hosted many state, regional, and national tournaments along with a full slate of leagues for local softball players. Community use of this facility is welcomed when not in use by leagues.

SCOREBOARD SPONSORS



AVAILABILITY	FRI PM	SAT	SUN	WKDYS
APR-OCT	5pm-10:15pm	8am-10:15pm	8am-4pm	8am-4pm

FIELD RENTALS	ADULT	YOUTH	YOUTH (Fall)
TOURNAMENTS	\$10-15/Game	\$30/Game	\$20/Game
PUBLIC HOURLY	\$30/Hr./Field (field light fees included)		

Valley View Park Fields

225 88th Street

515.222.3444

In 2000, a master plan for Valley View Park was completed for the 80 acres of land that was purchased the year before. This master plan included the construction of an aquatic center, soccer fields, baseball/softball practice fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, parking, and various other amenities. The Valley View Aquatic Center was completed and opened in 2003, and a revised master plan was initiated in 2010. Construction on the parking lot began soon after, and soil restoration and reseeded of the open play area took place. Two lighted basketball courts were constructed in 2016. Two lighted tennis courts with pickleball lines were finished in 2017. The three soccer fields, four softball/baseball fields, and cricket pitch are available for rent. Three sand volleyball courts were finished in 2019. A shelter, available for separate rental, was completed in 2019.



*Apr 1-Sep 1 Rental Season; 2 hr. minimum rental

To allow for turf renovation, field availability will be reduced Sep 2-Nov 1

FIELD RENTALS*	Soccer	Sftball/Bsball	Cricket
REGULAR	\$15/Hr.	\$10/Hr.	\$40/Hr.
FOR-PROFIT ORG.	\$30/Hr.	\$20/Hr.	\$80/Hr.

Reserve Valley View Park Fields Online at
www.wdm.iowa.gov/VVFields

Jordan Cemetery

2950 Fuller Road

515.222.3444

Historic Jordan Cemetery was founded by one of Polk County's earliest settlers, James C. Jordan, who arrived in Polk County in 1846 and homesteaded in the area of the cemetery. Grave markers in the cemetery indicate that one of the first burials occurred in 1855 when Melinda Jordan, James C. Jordan's first wife, died. Jordan, described as "one of the leading farmers of interior Iowa", served as a state senator and state representative. Records show that Jordan deeded the cemetery land to a cemetery association to administer. In 1920 the association voted to ask Valley Junction, as West Des Moines then was called, to provide funds to help maintain the cemetery. The cemetery is now managed by the City of West Des Moines Parks & Recreation Department. Monuments in the cemetery contain the names of members of some of the West Des Moines area's earliest and most prominent residents.

Burial plots are available for purchase in the newer western part of the cemetery.

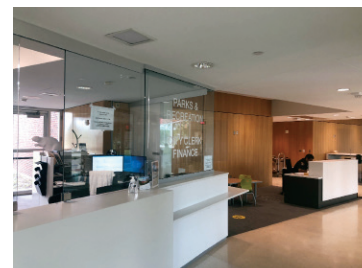


P&R Administrative Office

4200 Mills Civic Parkway

515-222-3444

West Des Moines City Hall underwent renovation throughout 2019 and was recently completed this spring. Visitors will notice that the front entrance and lobby area have a new look. This includes the entrance to the Parks and Recreation Department's Administrative Office. Visitors are asked to check in at the security desk. Front desk staff will then be able to provide services for any Parks and Recreation Department need at the left-side counter.



New West Des Moines Recreational Facility

Raccoon River Park Boathouse

2500 Grand Avenue

515-440-4787



Work has finished on the Raccoon River Park Boathouse on Blue Heron Lake! Offering visitors ways to “get their feet wet” in the park, the state-of-the-art Boathouse offers restrooms and boat rentals including canoes, kayaks, paddle boats, stand-up paddle boards and more. The Boathouse serves as a river trail and land trail hub and offers additional parking for easy access to the water.

We are proud to offer a new service to those who enjoy getting out on the water at Blue Heron Lake. The Boathouse features 43 rentable watercraft lockers where users can store kayaks and paddleboards for the year.

LOCKER BANK A

20 KAYAK LOCKERS

1	5	9	13	17
2	6	10	14	18
3	7	11	15	19
4	8	12	16	20

LOCKER BANK B

14 KAYAK LOCKERS

9 PADDLEBOARD LOCKERS

21	26	30	35	39
22	27	31	36	40
23	28	32	37	41
24	29	33	38	42
25		34	43	

Boat rentals at the Raccoon River Park Boathouse are managed by CanoeSport Outfitters of Indianola. Turn to page 9 in the main part of the WDM Magazine to view boat rental details.

Construction of the Raccoon River Park Boathouse was funded by LOSST (Local Option Sales and Services Tax) monies and by an Iowa DNR REAP (Resource Enhancement and Protection) grant. It is the first of the Five Waters Projects to be completed. Learn more at www.wdm.iowa.gov/FiveWaters.



New West Des Moines Recreational Facility

Jamie Hurd Amphitheater

4100 Mills Civic Parkway

515-222-3444



The Jamie Hurd Amphitheater is nearly complete and is the new performance and event venue on the West Des Moines City Campus. The \$2.4 million outdoor amphitheater is located next to the pond and serves as a community-based cultural center, working to bring people together to share inspiring musical performances and creative showcases. The amphitheater site was constructed with space for food trucks, outdoor movies, and ticketed events.



We are now accepting reservations for the 2021 Season! The Jamie Hurd Amphitheater can be rented between April 15 and October 15 and is available for private, non-profit, K-12, and ticketed events.

Jamie Hurd Amphitheater Rental Fees

	For-Profit/ Ticketed	Non-Profit (501c3)	K-12 Schools	Private	Weekday Discount
Days	Su-Sa	Su-Sa	M-Th	Su-Sa	M-Th
Hours	7am-10pm	7am-10pm	7am-10pm	7am-10pm	7am-4pm
Minimum Hours	10	4	2	4	4
Rental Fee	\$200/hr	\$100/hr	\$80/hour	\$100/hr	20% off total hourly rental

Call 515-222-3444

OR

Email allison.ullestad@wdm.iowa.gov
to rent the Jamie Hurd Amphitheater

Construction of the Jamie Hurd Amphitheater was funded by generous donations from the Microsoft Corporation and the Richard and Linda Hurd family. It is the second of the Five Waters Projects to be completed. Learn more at www.wdm.iowa.gov/FiveWaters.



New West Des Moines Recreational Facility

MidAmerican Energy Company RecPlex

6500 Grand Avenue

515-440-4775



The City of West Des Moines built a unique partnership with the private sector to bring a one-of-its-kind sports facility to Central Iowa – The MidAmerican Energy Company RecPlex. This public/private project promises to enhance the quality of life for Central Iowans of all ages and abilities. In particular, the project addresses the need for a regional indoor sports facility that provides year-round access and opportunity for our growing youth sports programs such as hockey, soccer and basketball.

Attendance projections indicate more than 1,000 participants per week night and approximately 5,000 per weekend day at the facility – showing that the RecPlex will be self-sufficient and sustainable. The City of West Des Moines will own and be responsible for the operation of the RecPlex. The RecPlex includes a 113,500 square foot arena with two sheets of ice, plus a 14,500 square foot concourse. The fieldhouse with mezzanine seating for spectators, is nearly 100,000 square feet and includes a full-sized turf soccer field that converts into netted fields. Additionally, court sports, such as basketball and volleyball are accommodated with 26,000 square feet of convertible hardcourt. The outdoor amenities include three full-sized, lighted and artificially turf fields for soccer, lacrosse, and football. On-site parking can manage up to 1200 vehicles.

The RecPlex project site sits along the south side of Grand Avenue at Jordan Creek Parkway. The 60-acre site is conveniently situated within a mile of I-35, making the RecPlex easily accessed from all directions. The facility also is less than a ten-minute drive from the Des Moines International Airport making it an ideal location, not only for local youth sports groups, but for regional events such as tournaments, trade shows and conventions.



Follow the progress on Facebook @ MidAmerican Energy Company RecPlex



New West Des Moines Parks

Pinedale Park

3375 Woodland Avenue

Reconstruction of Pinedale Park began in the spring of 2019. A shelter, playground equipment, 1/2 basketball court, concrete sidewalk, stormwater improvements, and site restoration were completed and the park opened back up to the public this past spring. Pinedale Park was created under the City's Parkland Dedication Ordinance.

Amenities

Shelter	Parking Lot
Playground	1/2 Basketball Court



Hidden Point Park

1250 S. Hidden Point Court

Construction of Hidden Point Park, located east of the Jordan Creek Parkway and Stagecoach intersection, began in March of 2019 and was completed in the spring of 2020. The park sits on approximately 8 acres of greenspace and contains park amenities including a paved parking lot, ball field, 2-5 age and 5-12 age playgrounds, multi-use trail and established wetland. Future amenities will include a picnic shelter, restroom, a basketball and tennis court and interpretive signage.

Amenities

Playground	Open Playfield
Parking Lot	Multi-Use Trail



Whisper Point Park

9125 Bridgewood Blvd.

Whisper Point Park is WDM's newest park. It features a restroom facility, playground equipment, concrete sidewalks and trails, stormwater and water quality improvements. Two small shelters and a parking lot were also constructed. This park was created under the City's Parkland Dedication Ordinance which requires that developers provide land for park and recreation purposes.

Amenities

Shelter	Parking Lot	Grill
Playground	Restroom	



IllumiFest

a Fall Festival of light

Saturday, September 19 5:30-9:30pm WDM City/School Campus

FREE Inflatables & Games

5:30-8:30pm

FREE Lantern Making

5:30pm

"Faculty Lounge" at the Jamie Hurd Amphitheater

5:30-7pm

Food Trucks

5:30-7pm

Circus Performers

5:30-7pm

Jamie Hurd Amphitheater Grand Opening Ceremony

7pm

FREE Outdoor Movie - Onward (2020, PG)

7:15pm

Fireworks

9pm



More details at www.wdm.iowa.gov/Illumifest

Halloween Hoopla

Halloween is lurking just around the corner, and this haunted holiday would not be complete without a fun, family-friendly event at Raccoon River Park. Come on out and join the freaky festivities. We will decorate pumpkins and enjoy a ride on the "Witch's Wagon" around the Lake. You will be treated to Count Dracula's "blood" while making your own Skeleton S'mores! Be sure to save the date...we're just dying to see you there!



ID #14414	10/23	F, 5:30-7:30pm	12+ 2-11 under 2	\$6 \$4 Free	Nature Lodge
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Howl-O-Ween Paw-Ty

NEW



Calling all dogs for a HOWL'ing good time! Join other four legged friends as we celebrate HOWL-O-WEEN at the Dog Park. This fun pooch paw-ty will feature fun and games for the dogs; a Toss and Fetch demonstration; dog friendly vendors on-site; and a pooch parade. Bring your dog in costume and take a fun fall photo at our photo stop!

****Please note:** This is a special event inside the Dog Park, so a separate fee to participate is required. Dog Park season passes will not be honored in lieu of the registration fee.

ID #14418	10/24	Sa, 9-11am	12+	\$5/dog	Raccoon River Dog Park
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Puppy Pumpkin Patch

NEW

Everyone is CRAZY about their pooches, so we have created the perfect photo opportunity for you and your furry friends. We will have a "fall scene" set up in the entrance to the dog park from Oct 16- Nov 13 where you can snap a perfect fall photo with your favorite furry friend!

10/16-11/13	M-Su, 8am-9pm	10+	FREE	Dog Park
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Beggars Night in WDM

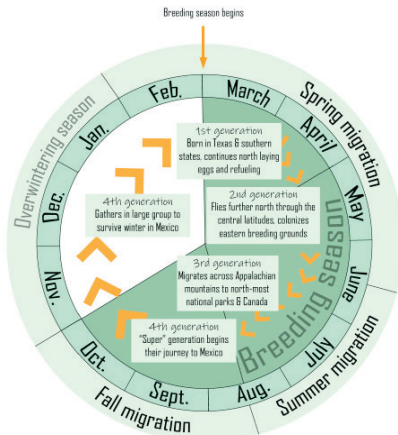
Friday, October 30

6-8pm

To register visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg or call 515.222.3444

Monarch Butterfly Tagging Kits

NEW



The Monarch Butterfly Migration is an amazing feat of nature. These tiny creatures fly over 2,000 miles to the mountain of Mexico each fall. These migrating monarchs will pass through this area anywhere between the last week in August through the first week in October. Scientists have been studying monarch migration for decades, and this year you will have the opportunity to help by tagging monarchs in your own back yard. Each monarch butterfly kit will contain 3 monarch tags, information on the monarchs migration journey and access to a brief video on "How to tag a Monarch". There are a limited number of kits, so don't wait to get yours!



You can pay for (\$5 each) and pick up your kits at the Nature Lodge at Raccoon River Park. Participants must record tagging data and return this data to the Nature Lodge by October 15.

To register visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg or call 515.222.3444



The Rook Room is a board game pop-up delivering unique gaming-themed events and experiences at bars, cafes, and other spaces around the Des Moines metro. From board games to tabletop RPGs to card games, we bring people together over a shared love of games. Learn more at www.therookroom.com.

Play Date **NEW**

Bring the whole family to Play Date, a board game filled afternoon where you can try out new games and old favorites. Each month will have a theme and a wide selection of throwback games for you to try, featuring classics like Candy Land, Monopoly, Guess Who and more.



Classic Throwbacks	10/4	Su, 1-4pm	ALL	Free	Activity Center
Word Games	11/1				
Nature & Science Games	12/6				

Intro to Catan **NEW**

Learn the basics of the Settlers of Catan games and participate in a mini tournament. For anyone who has ever wanted to “graduate” to more modern and complex games but was waiting for a welcoming environment to try.

ID #14335	11/8	Su, 1-4pm	13+	\$5	Activity Center
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Dungeons & Dragons 101 NEW

Interested in trying D&D but not sure where to start? We've got you covered. You'll walk away with dice and a basic understanding of how to play most tabletop role-playing games.

ID #14333	11/15	Su, 1-4pm	10+	\$7	Activity Center
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D & D Meet-Up **NEW**

This meet and greet is targeted at introducing people in order to help them network and find other people who want to play Dungeons and Dragons or other role-playing games.

11/21	Sa, 1-4pm	10+	Free	Activity Center
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To register visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg or call 515.222.3444

Archery, Give it a “Shot”

Have you thought about trying archery, but you don't have any equipment? These family events are planned just for you! Come to the archery facility at Raccoon River Park to give it a try. We will provide the bows, arrows and instruction for you to try this exciting sport. Registration is limited to the first 30 people.

ID #14408	9/3	Th, 5:45-7:15pm	8+	\$3	Raccoon River Park
ID #14410	10/6	T, :30-6:45pm	8+	\$3	Raccoon River Park

Park Packs

Have you ever wanted to do fun and educational activities with your children, scouts, or home school group but didn't know where to start? We've put together Park Packs to help you get started. These packs will give you the knowledge and activities to get your family out and enjoying nature. You can check out the Park Packs from the Nature Lodge. We currently have packs available on Insects, Birds, Mammals, and Life in the Pond. Come and check one out today!



Charlotte Chipmunk

Go explore with Charlotte Chipmunk this fall! Keep an eye on Facebook for another Chipmunk adventure. Charlotte Chipmunk will be hiding in historic locations throughout West Des Moines. You will have the same



for Charlie, and maybe you will learn some things about West Des Moines along the way. Starting October 5, you can find Charlotte hidden in historic locations in West Des Moines. (Please leave her there for others to find!) Record the word on her acorn and put it on your park tracker. (Park trackers available at the Nature Lodge at Raccoon River Park or at wdm.iowa.gov.) Once you have stopped at all of the historic locations, you can unlock Charlotte's secret message. Bring the tracker to the Nature Lodge at Raccoon River Park to claim your prize. Prizes will be limited to the first 200 kids ages 10 and under.

Breakfast with Santa

Join us for this fun, festive, holiday breakfast featuring Santa Claus himself! Our event features an all you can eat pancake breakfast, catered by "Chris Cakes". Photos on Santa's lap will be available...so be sure to bring your camera! A very limited number of admission tickets will be available for purchase at the door. Please be sure to register early.

#14417	12/12	Sa, 8-10am	12+	\$6	Nature Lodge
			2-11	\$4	
			under 2	Free	

***All children must be supervised by a paying adult**



To register visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg or call 515.222.3444

Tae-Kwon-Do / Karate

The Korean art of self defense, Tae-Kwon-Do, is recognized as a beneficial method of improving health, balance, agility and poise. As a philosophy of mental alertness and moral ethics, TKD can serve to enhance anyone's life, young or old. Beginner classes are for white through green belts. Intermediate/Advanced classes are for green belts and up.



BEGINNER CLASS

ID #13990	8/25-10/13	T, 6:30-7:30pm	6+	\$40	Activity Center
ID #13992	10/20-12/8	T, 6:30-7:30pm	6+	\$40	Activity Center

INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED CLASS

ID #13991	8/25-10/13	T, 7:30-8:30pm	6+	\$40	Activity Center
ID #13993	10/20-12/8	T, 7:30-8:30pm	6+	\$40	Activity Center

Little Ninjas

Join our early childhood program designed to teach the basic fundamentals of both Tae-Kwon-Do and Karate. This class will focus on building self-respect, self-confidence, coordination of mind and body, and self-discipline.

ID #13994	8/25-10/13	T, 5:30-6pm	4-5	\$28	Activity Center
ID #13989	8/25-10/13	T, 6-6:30pm	4-5	\$28	Activity Center
ID #13996	10/20-12/8	T, 5:30-6pm	4-5	\$28	Activity Center
ID #13995	10/20-12/8	T, 6-6:30pm	4-5	\$28	Activity Center

Babysitters Course **NEW**



The Red Cross Babysitters course will provide participants with the knowledge and skills to safely and responsibly care for children and infants. Participants will learn how to build a babysitting business, develop leadership skills, and how to keep themselves and others safe. They will also learn some basic information of First Aid and CPR. Each participant will receive a babysitting training set which includes a manual, a pocket emergency reference guide, and a CD with helpful resources.

ID #14391	9/26	Sa, 9:30am-4:30pm	11-16	\$60	Activity Center
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Lee Cole's Magicamp

Magicamp is for anyone who likes to have fun. You'll learn how to entertain & amaze your friends, family, and classmates with magic that you can do anywhere, at any time and for the rest of your life. Join professional magician Lee Cole for 2 days of fun at the Raccoon River Park Nature Lodge. All magic materials provided.

ID #14016	12/28 & 12/30	M & W, 1-3:45pm	7-15	\$45	Nature Lodge
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Little Breakerz

NEW


This beginner breakdancing class will teach the basic foundations of breaking along with some history of Hip Hop culture. We will cover toprocking, footwork, freezes, transitions and power in a fun and safe environment. Classes are led by Anthony San who has taught youth breakdancing around the metro for over five years.

ID #14386	9/20-10/25	Su, 3-3:45pm	4-6	\$40	Activity Center
ID #14387	9/20-10/25	Su, 3:45-4:45pm	7-11	\$40	Activity Center

First Steps Dance Classes

First Steps Dance Classes are designed to introduce children to the fundamental skills of dance at a cost and time commitment that is minimal to parents. All classes are led by Josalynn Agnew, an instructor with many years of studio experience. 3-4 year olds will receive instruction in ballet and jazz. 5-7 year olds will receive instruction in ballet, jazz, and tap. No special shoes are required.



Beginners

SESSION 1 *Class will not be held on 9/7

#14103	8/31-10/12*	M, 5-5:30pm	3-4	\$39	Activity Center
#14104	8/31-10/12*	M, 5:30-6:15pm	5-7	\$49	Activity Center
#14105	8/31-10/12*	M, 6:15-6:45pm	3-4	\$39	Activity Center
#14110	9/8-10/13	T, 5-5:30pm	3-4	\$39	Activity Center

SESSION 2

#14107	10/26-11/30	M, 5-5:30pm	3-4	\$39	Activity Center
#14108	10/26-11/30	M, 5:30-6:15pm	5-7	\$49	Activity Center
#14109	10/26-11/30	M, 6:15-6:45pm	3-4	\$39	Activity Center
#14111	10/27-12/1	T, 5-5:30pm	3-4	\$39	Activity Center

Intermediate *Class will not be held on 9/7 & 10/19 **Class will not be held on 10/20

#14106	8/31-11/30*	M, 6:45-7:45pm	9-11	\$105	Activity Center
#14112	9/8-12/1**	T, 5:30-6:15pm	5-6	\$105	Activity Center
#14113	9/8-12/1**	T, 6:15-7:05pm	7-8	\$105	Activity Center

Art Around the World

Get ready to discover art from around the world. In this six-week program, your child will create art from or inspired by Haiti, Egypt, Bolivia, Denmark, Greece, and Morocco. We will spend some time each week learning about a country and then create our art. And to highlight what we've done, families will be invited to a gallery night upon completion of the class!



9/17 – Painted Geckos (Haiti)	10/15 – Clay Vases (Greece)
9/24 – Self Portraits (Egypt)	10/22 – Hanging Lanterns (Morocco)
10/1 – Siku Panpipes (Bolivia)	10/29 – Gallery Night
10/8 – Windmills (Denmark)	
ID #14115	9/17-10/29 Th, 5:15-6:45pm 8-12 \$65 Activity Center



Environmental Art

NEW

Outdoor adventure meets art in this workshop. We will spend a short time learning about artist Andy Goldsworthy and his approach to Environmental Art, which uses materials found in nature. We will then take a hike to collect materials to create our own temporary works of environmental art, which will exist until the wind or rain sweeps them away. Participants will receive a digital photo of their artwork.

ID #14133	10/18	Su, 1-2:30pm	7-12	\$10	Nature Lodge
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Creative Geniuses Art

This art class for school aged children will explore different mediums each week. We will work through a creative process to plan, develop, and create art pieces that represent a seasonal theme. We will connect to students' personal interests and help them to develop techniques with their art tools. No class on 11/28

ID #14024	10/3-10/24	Sa, 11:15am-12:15pm	6-11	\$59	Activity Center
ID #14022	11/7-12/5	Sa, 11:15am-12:15pm	6-11	\$59	Activity Center

***Fee includes a student sketchbook and an online student art museum**



www.WeAreCreativeGeniuses.com

PreK Art Play

This art class for preschoolers is inspired by play! We will play with a different medium each week and focus on fine motor ability, social skills, and creative thinking. Young artists will enjoy exercising decision-making skills and using their creativity during this fun art exploratory class. No class on 11/28

ID #14021	10/3-10/24	Sa, 10:30-11am	3-5	\$48	Activity Center
ID #14023	11/7-12/5	Sa, 10:30-11am	3-5	\$48	Activity Center

***Fee includes an online student art museum**

To register visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg or call 515.222.3444

First Sticks Lacrosse

NEW


This course is for boys and girls new to the game of lacrosse. Children will learn basic lacrosse skills from coaches and players from the WDM Lacrosse Club. All necessary equipment is provided.

ID #14134	9/21-9/24	M-Th, 6-7pm	7-12	\$25	Valley View Park
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Recreation Hotline

For special program information and updates or weather-related cancellations call

515.222.3500

Courage League Adapted Recreation

Courage League Adapted Recreation programming is for children living with a special healthcare need. Our program will include fitness components with super hero training. Programming also includes music and movement, introduction to sports, and the integration of group games. Your participant will grow in social skills and learn what their bodies CAN do.



Session 1

9/3-9/24	Th, 4:30-5:30pm	2-10	Valley Community Center
9/3-9/24	Th, 5-6pm	11+	Valley Community Center

Session 2

10/1-10/22	Th, 4:30-5:30pm	2-10	Valley Community Center
10/1-10/22	Th, 5-6pm	11+	Valley Community Center

Session 3

10/29-11/19	Th, 4:30-5:30pm	2-10	Valley Community Center
10/29-11/19	Th, 5-6pm	11+	Valley Community Center

Adapted Soccer

The Adapted Soccer program is for ages 5 and up. The program includes skills development and game play. Pace and rules are adapted to meet the needs of all abilities. This course is open to all abilities no matter the physical, cognitive or emotional needs. Can Play is for those with more limitations and assistive devices.

Can Play	10/10-10/31	Sa, 8-9am	5+	Valley Community Center
Chaamps	10/10-10/31	Sa, 9-10am	5+	Valley Community Center

Please register for these Courage League programs at www.courageleaguesports.com/programs

To register visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg or call 515.222.3444



www.RoundedMinds.com

Sports Exploration

This action-centered sports sampling program exposes children to a variety of sports while they explore and develop their natural abilities. Professional coaches create enjoyable experiences for children that emphasize fitness, fun, and play to foster motivation for lifelong participation in sports.

ID #14130 10/24-11/21 Sa, 9:30-10:15am 3-6 \$65 Activity Center

Soccer

This high-energy fitness program is led by professional soccer coaches who introduce children to fundamental soccer principles, such as using their feet, dribbling, passing, ball control, and shooting by using creative games, positive reinforcement, and even songs. Children will learn the basic rules of the game while practicing sportsmanship and teamwork.



ID #14127	9/12-10/17	Sa, 9-9:30am	2-3	\$55	Wilson Park
ID #14131	9/12-10/17	Sa, 9:30-10am	2-3	\$55	Wilson Park
ID #14128	9/12-10/17	Sa, 10-10:45am	4-6	\$65	Wilson Park



Tumbling

Our tumbling program allows young children to enhance their social skills and develop greater strength, flexibility, and coordination – along with a lifelong love of fitness. Classes are taught with a theme to catch the attention of the young gymnast and build skills through creative movement and music. This will provide them the confidence to participate in active exercises as they grow older, and at the same time, they will be learning Spanish.

ID #14126	10/9-11/6	F, 5-5:30pm	2-3	\$55	Activity Center
ID #14132	10/9-11/6	F, 5:30-6pm	2-3	\$55	Activity Center
ID #14129	10/9-11/6	F, 6-6:45pm	4-6	\$65	Activity Center

Youth Archery Lessons

Does your child want to learn more about archery? Maybe they would benefit from some group archery lessons. Each lesson time will be limited to six archers. Lessons will be taught by a NASP certified teacher.

ID #14464	9/2-9/16	W, 4:30-5:15pm	10-13	\$21	Archery Facility
ID #14465	9/2-9/16	W, 5:15-6pm	10-13	\$21	Archery Facility

The format for all Rounded Minds™ programming is high-energy! Children experience the joy of learning new skills by “doing” and through fun games, songs, and positive reinforcement. Every Rounded Minds™ class is designed and led by attentive experts committed to providing safe, creative and fun educational experiences.

Iowa Hawkeye Football



Every year we travel via deluxe motor coach to Kinnick Stadium to watch the Iowa Hawkeyes play football. This year, we were unable to secure tickets prior to this publication. We certainly hope that fans will be in the stands and we will be able to travel to Iowa City again this year! Stay tuned to our Facebook page and website, and feel free to add your name to our list by “registering” for this day trip to Kinnick. **Please note: This trip is only listed as a FREE program to generate a list until tickets are secured.**

ID #14416	10/17	Sa, 6am-6pm	4+	see above	Pick Up & Drop Off at WDM City Hall
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Adult Coed Touch Rugby

An informational meeting/open play will take place on the first Wednesday of each session at 6:15pm. At this meeting, we will explain the team organization process and answer questions about the league. We will also allow time for open play. All teams are required to have one woman playing on the field at all times. Please bring a light and dark shirt or reversible jersey. Teams will be determined by ability and teammate preference. There will be a minimum of 10 games played in the 5-week season. Games last approximately 15 minutes.



***Babysitting by the Des Moines Rugby League is available for an extra \$5**

ID #12584	8/19-9/16	W, 6:15-8:45pm	18+	\$20	DM Rugby Club (120 39th St, WDM)
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Yoga with Jayla

There is a great need in the world today for stress management. Most people suffer from a tremendous amount of stress and pressure due to the demands of their jobs/careers/lives. Yoga with Jayla is a Yoga Workshop for people of the community so that they can reap the various benefits of yoga. It has been medically proven that yoga releases stress and tension from the nervous system, and this in turn enhances a person's ability to cope with the increasing pressures of modern day living. Yoga does this by providing deep relaxation to the body and the mind through its ancient breathing techniques and physical postures/exercises. So what are you waiting for? Let's get started sharpening your mind, body, and soul! To keep up to date on classes visit www.facebook.com/yogawithjayla.



M & Th, 6-7pm; Sa & Su, 10-11am

ID #14100	9/3-9/28	M, Th, Sa, Su	18+	\$75	Activity Center
ID #14098	10/1-10-31	M, Th, Sa, Su	18+	\$80	Activity Center
ID #14099	11/1-11/30	M, Th, Sa, Su	18+	\$80	Activity Center
ID #14101	12/3-12/20	M, Th, Sa, Su	18+	\$60	Activity Center

Craft Craze Classes

Are you looking to get out of the house and get your creative juices flowing? If so, you may want to sign up for a Craft Craze Class. During each class you will leave with a finished or nearly finished item great for decoration or for gifts.

Pumpkins Two Ways **NEW**

We will make two decorative pumpkins out of household items - one from a used book and one from mason jar lids. You will leave with two rustic decor pieces perfect for a mantle or centerpiece.



ID #14135 10/14 W, 5:30-7pm 16+ \$15 Nature Lodge



NEW Sugar Cookie Bath Bombs

We will make three sugar cookie scented bath bombs that can hang on your tree as ornaments or be given away as gifts.

ID #14136 12/6 Su, 1-2pm 16+ \$15 Nature Lodge

Poker Skills **NEW**

This class focuses on beginning players, giving them more tools to hone their skills and strategy. We will discuss mathematical calculations, "tells" and more, sharpening the mental maneuvering required to win. Each class will begin with a brief discussion of poker's rich history, the lessons of its most esteemed players, and some of the theories and strategies that have emerged over time. We'll then devote the majority of the class period to practice in both ring and tournament style play. **Please note that this class is intended to teach technique only, and NO real money will be on the table.**



ID #14188 9/15-10/20 T, 6:30-8:30pm 18+ \$20 Nature Lodge

Archery for Adults

If you are a stay at home parent, senior or just looking for a chance to try archery, come to the Raccoon River Archery facility for this program. We have the equipment, so come and try it out.



ID #14407 8/26 W, 10-11am 18+ \$3 Archery Facility

ID #14409 9/30 W, 5:30-6:30pm 18+ \$3 Archery Facility

Forest Bathing Shinrin-Yoku

Join us for a 2-hr forest bathing walk led by Brandy Case Haub of Intertwined Nature + Forest Therapy.

Forest bathing boosts immunity, lowers blood pressure and stress hormones, prevents and relieves stress and anxiety, and increases cognitive functioning. Guided forest bathing walks are appropriate for all ages and abilities: less than a ½ mile is covered on each walk. Guides use techniques to support participants in entering a state of embodied awareness, moving through a series of "invitations" to support participants in tuning into each of their senses, allowing participants to move into a liminal space and experience resulting wellness benefits.



ID #13327	9/19	Sa, 9-11am	16+	\$20	Southwoods Park
ID #14447	10/11	Su, 2-4pm	16+	\$20	Raccoon River Park
ID #14460	11/7	Sa, 2-4pm	16+	\$20	Southwoods Park

Ballroom Dancing Level I & II

Instructors: Jim and Suzi Benjamin

Questions? DanceInfo@DesMoinesDance.org

Dances taught: Foxtrot, Swing (East Coast) Waltz, Rumba, Tango & Cha Cha; Couples only

ID #14507	9/13-12/6	Su, 12:30-1:30pm	18+	\$100	Activity Center
ID #14040	9/13-10/4	Su, 12:30-1:30pm	18+	\$40	Activity Center
ID #14508	9/17-12/10	Th, 6:45-7:45pm	18+	\$100	Activity Center
ID #14036	9/17-10/8	Th, 6:45-7:45pm	18+	\$40	Activity Center
ID #14026	10/11-11/1	Su, 12:30-1:30pm	18+	\$40	Activity Center
ID #14027	10/15-11/5	Th, 6:45-7:45pm	18+	\$40	Activity Center
ID #14025	11/8-12/6	Su, 12:30-1:30pm	18+	\$40	Activity Center
ID #14038	11/12-12/10	Th, 6:45-7:45pm	18+	\$40	Activity Center

Level II & III

Prerequisite: Level I or equivalent dance experience; Couples only

ID #14035	9/13-10/4	Su, 1:30-2:30pm	16+	\$40	Activity Center
ID #14509	9/13-12/6	Su, 1:30-2:30pm	16+	\$100	Activity Center
ID #14034	10/11-11/1	Su, 1:30-2:30pm	16+	\$40	Activity Center
ID #14033	11/8-12/6	Su, 1:30-2:30pm	16+	\$40	Activity Center

Level III & IV

Prerequisite: Level I & II or equivalent dance experience; Couples only

ID #14037	9/14-10/5	M, 6:45-7:45pm	16+	\$40	Activity Center
ID #14510	9/14-12/7	M, 6:45-7:45pm	16+	\$100	Activity Center
ID #14028	10/12-11/2	M, 6:45-7:45pm	16+	\$40	Activity Center
ID #14039	11/9-12/7	M, 6:45-7:45pm	16+	\$40	Activity Center



Auditioning Workshop **NEW**

Iowa Stage Theatre Company Artistic Director Matt McIver leads students in cold readings and feedback designed to improve the chances of getting the role. Students are also invited - but not required - to prepare a monologue to present in the class.

ID #14114 9/12 Sa, 2-5pm 16+ \$30 Activity Center

Basic Acting **NEW**

Drawing largely on the work of master acting teacher Sanford Meisner, yet also including the instructor's own insights and exercises culled from decades of acting and acting education, this class gives the new actor a solid basis of acting training - and some fun and surprises too!

ID #14184 9/26-10/17 Sa, 11:30am-2:30pm 16+ \$75 Activity Center

Writing for Stage and Screen **NEW**

From opening moments through to the hush of a final fadeout, writers of the drama and their audiences want the very same thing: the thrill of a great story well told. This class helps you structure your stage or screen story for maximum impact.

ID #14185 9/26-10/17 Sa, 3-6pm 16+ \$75 Activity Center

Advanced Acting **NEW**

Already have some acting experience, onstage, on-screen or in class? This class will give you the opportunity to stretch in monologues and scenes chosen by you and/or your instructor.

ID #14186 10/24-11/14 Sa, 3-6pm 16+ \$75 Activity Center



Acting Shakespeare **NEW**

The world's greatest playwright is also the world's greatest teacher of actors - even from 400 years away! Instructor Matt McIver leads students through the clues in Shakespeare's text, clues that are there to help the actor bring the Bard to exciting life.

ID #14187 11/14 Sa, 11:30am-2:30pm 16+ \$30 Activity Center

To register visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg or call 515.222.3444

Zumba Fitness



Perfect for everybody and every body! Each Zumba class is designed to bring people together to sweat it on. We take the "work" out of workout by mixing low and high intensity moves for an interval-style, calorie-burning dance fitness party. Zumba is a total workout, combining all elements of fitness-cardio, muscle conditioning, balance and flexibility, boosted energy and a serious dose of awesome each time you leave class.

Instructor: Eva Otanez 515.419.9523

ID #14097	9/2-10/8	M, W, Th, 5:15-6:15pm	18+	\$85	Activity Center
ID #14096	10/14-11/16	M, W, Th, 5:15-6:15pm	18+	\$75	Activity Center
ID #14095	11/25-12/14	M, W, Th, 5:15-6:15pm	18+	\$45	Activity Center

Punch Card Option: 10 classes for \$60
Purchase at the Activity Center

Volleyball & Basketball Open Gym

Volleyball and Basketball Open Gym will be offered at the MidAmerican Energy Company RecPlex beginning in January. Please look for more info to come.

Coed Badminton Open Gym

Drop in for pick-up badminton matches.

***Participants under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian**

8/2/20- 4/25/21	Su, 2:30-5pm	18+	\$2 res/\$3 non-res	Valley Southwoods
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Do you love softball, volleyball, kickball, basketball or flag football but just moved to town or don't have a team to play on? Anyone interested in playing in any of our leagues can go to www.teamsideline.com/WestDesMoines to sign up. We can't guarantee you will be placed on a team, but past response has been positive.

join our team



Recreation Hotline

For special program information and updates
or weather-related cancellations call

515.222.3500

To register visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg or call 515.222.3444

Coed Kickball League

8/13 Registration Deadline

The West Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department is accepting applications for our upcoming Adult Coed Kickball Leagues using Team Sideline. For registration information or to be placed on our email list, please call 515.222.3444.

Information will also be posted online in July at www.teamsideline.com/WestDesMoines.



Starts week of 8/24 M, T, W, Th 18+ \$197.95/team Softball Complex

Coed Divisions Junior High, Junior Varsity, and Varsity

Game Times 6:15, 7:15, 8:15, and 9:15pm

Men's Flag Football



FALL LEAGUE The deadline to apply has passed. Please call 515.222.3444 if you and your team are interested as there may still be space.

Volleyball League

8/13 Registration Deadline

The West Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department is accepting applications for our upcoming Adult Coed and Women's Volleyball League using Team Sideline. For registration information or to be placed on our email list, please call 515.222.3444.

Information will also be posted online in July at www.teamsideline.com/WestDesMoines.



Starts week of 9/14 M, T, W, Th 18+ \$278.20/team TBD

Coed Divisions A, B, C, A1, A2, B, C1, and C2

Women's Divisions A, B1, B2, and C

Men's Basketball League

11/12 Registration Deadline

The West Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department will be accepting applications in September for our upcoming Adult Men's Basketball League using Team Sideline. Each team will play a 10-game, round-robin schedule. All games will be staffed with high school certified officials and scorekeepers. For registration information or to be placed on our email list, please call 515.222.3444.



Information will also be posted online in September at www.teamsideline.com/WestDesMoines.

Starts week of 12/2 W, Su 18+ \$470.80/team TBD

Men's Divisions A, B, C, B1, B2, C1, C2, C3, D1, and D2

ADULT ATHLETIC LEAGUE TEAM ACCEPTANCE POLICY

The Adult Athletic League Team Acceptance Policy applies to all adult athletic leagues. The order of priority is as follows:

- 1.) Returning Teams = Teams having at least 51% of last season's roster.
 - A.) Teams who participated in the league the previous season.
 - B.) Teams who participated in the league the previous year.
 - C.) Teams may be placed in another division by the Parks and Recreation Department to equalize competition.
- 2.) New Teams = Teams that did not participate in the league the previous season or year.
- 3.) Late Teams = Any team that does not meet the established deadlines will be accepted at the Department's discretion. If more teams apply than we have space for, priority will be given to teams with the highest percentage of players on their roster residing within the city of West Des Moines School District in all cases except softball and kickball, where City boundaries apply.

CORPORATE SPONSOR HONOR ROLL

We would like to say "Thank You" to the sponsors and advertisers of the Adult Sports programs. We encourage you to support them.

- COCA COLA
- AWARDS PROGRAM SERVICES



THANK YOU!

To register visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg or call 515.222.3444

REGISTRATION STARTS ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, AT 8AM

Madison County and MORE!

Enjoy a day "out and about" as we take in some of the scenes of Madison County. First we'll travel to Winterset to pick up our step-on guide. We'll visit five of the unique bridges Madison County has to offer, including a tour of John Wayne Birthplace & Museum. We will enjoy a delicious lunch downtown, with free time to shop on the Historical Square. After departing downtown, we will head to Bare Bison Ranch for a tour. Our last stop will be at Howell's Tree Farm and Dried Florals. There is usually something for everyone in their gift shop! Enjoy this day out, just south of the metro!

ID #14516 9/22 T, 7:30am-5pm 55+ \$69 Valley West Mall (SE corner)

Celebration Belle Through 2 Lock and Dams



Enjoy the scenic fall colors as we cruise downriver and enjoy all of the wonderful food and live entertainment along the Mississippi River to the historical town of Muscatine. We'll board the largest luxury excursion vessel on the upper Mississippi River and take in breathtaking views. As if that weren't enough to tempt you...our day will also include sticky rolls and fruit as the cruise departs, a full hot lunch buffet, and a snack in the afternoon! Prepare yourself for a fun, relaxing day on the river.

ID #14413 10/21 W, 7am-7pm 55+ \$99 Valley West Mall (SE corner)

Holiday Lights Tour

Join us for a relaxing evening, sure to put you into the Holiday Spirit! First we will travel to Altoona to view the "Jolly Holiday Lights" display. Please note our departure is from the Nature Lodge at Raccoon River Park where our warm motor coach will play festive Holiday music en route. Upon our return, we will be treated to hot cider and light snacks, featuring some LIVE local entertainment.

ID #14415 12/8 T, 5-8pm 55+ \$15 Nature Lodge

These trips generally fill quickly, so please register early. Space is limited to 50 people. All day trips are open to people 55 years old and over.

PROGRAM REGISTRATION FORM

Account Primary Contact

First Name

Last Name

Birth-date

Phone

Mailing Street Address

Email

City, State, Zip Code

Card Number

Exp. Date

CVC

Visa Mastercard Discover

Circle One

Registration Information

Participant First Name	Participant Last Name	Birthdate	Course ID #	Fee

* Please make checks payable to the City of West Des Moines

Drop Off

WDM Parks & Rec. Admin. Office
4200 Mills Civic Parkway
West Des Moines, IA 50265

Mail To

WDM Parks & Rec. Dept.
PO Box 65320
West Des Moines, IA 50265

Scan & Email To

parkrec@wdm.iowa.gov
Fax To
515.222.3459

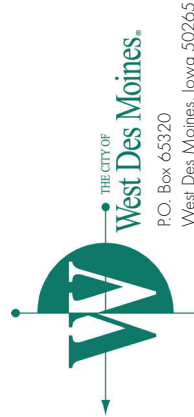
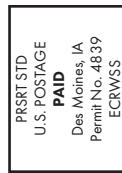
WDM Parks & Recreation Department Waiver and Release of Liability

In consideration of my own or my child's participation in the Parks and Recreation (hereinafter referred to as "P&R") program or activity through the City of WDM, Iowa (hereinafter referred to as "City"), we hereby release the City, its officials, employees, representatives, and agents from any and all accidents, injuries, damages, or losses received by my child or myself through the P&R program that have not been caused by negligence attributable to the City. I also agree and acknowledge that the City is not responsible for any intentional or reckless actions of the City's officials, employees, representatives, and agents since those actions are the sole conduct of the responsible individual(s). I further agree and acknowledge that this release of liability is full, complete, and comprehensive, and it covers all accidents, injuries, damages, or losses, known or unknown, and any and all costs related thereto arising out of or otherwise related to my child's participation or my own participation in programs or activities, and that this release is binding upon our heirs, successors, and assigns. We certify that my child and/or myself has received a proper physical examination within the past year and that we are physically able to participate in all P&R activities. We understand that it is our obligation to timely inform P&R of any restrictions or limitations regarding our physical abilities. We also understand that it is our obligation to follow all regulations and rules set forth by P&R in the performance of the activities. We hereby release, indemnify, and hold harmless the City, its officials, employees, representatives, and agents from any and all claims, settlements, and judgments, including all reasonable investigative fees, attorney's fees, and court costs for any injury, damage, or loss, which is due to or arises in whole or in part due to negligent, reckless, or intentional actions taken by my child or by myself.





Scan with your mobile
device to see our website



P.O. Box 65320

West Des Moines, Iowa 50265

Join Our Circle of Friends

Friends of WDM Parks & Recreation

Supporting and Promoting WDM Parks, Open Spaces, and Recreational Programs

Friends of West Des Moines Parks and Recreation is a non-profit corporation organized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The mission of the corporation is to support the development and enhancement of public parks, facilities, and recreation programs for the benefit of the citizens of West Des Moines, Iowa.

Join Us Today!



- Help us enhance the quality of life in West Des Moines through park and recreation projects that bring a more full and joyful life.
- Help us preserve and protect land and wildlife in West Des Moines to ensure future generations' happiness and wellbeing.
- Help us improve West Des Moines parks so organizations and businesses can better recruit and

Basic Membership - \$35/year

Donations may be tax deductible

Contact Us

Website: www.wdm.iowa.gov/FriendsofWDMPR

Email: FriendsofWDMParks@gmail.com